

Willis steps in to stop collapse of pit peace talks

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The TUC stepped in last night to forestall a final collapse of the coal strike peace talks after the National Coal Board rejected the latest overtures from miners' leaders.



The Duchess of Kent greeting Prince Naruhito of Japan at The Times Bicentenary concert at the Festival Hall last night...

Bicentenary celebrated in music

By Robin Young

The Festival Hall in London was filled to capacity last night for a musical celebration of The Times Bicentenary...

Number of jobless jumps by 121,000

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Unemployment has risen to a new high of 3,340,958. The jobs total, which jumped by 121,552 between December and January...

Secrets Act gag on drug advisers

By Nicholas Timmins

The seven leading drug specialists called in by the Government to advise it on amendments to its proposed limited list of National Health Service drugs...

THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow

Quick steps From break to belly getting inside the dance explosion

How Jocelyn Stevens is shaking up the Royal College of Art

New wave comedian Rik Mayall starts in Gogol's The Government Inspector at the National Theatre

Red Devil Row Atkinson flamboyant manager of Manchester United talks to Simon Barnes

Portfolios The Times' Portfolio competition prize was shared by two winners yesterday...

Carrington sees arms talks snags Lord Carrington, the Secretary General of Nato...

Church licence Anglican clergy are to be left to decide whether to marry divorced people in church...

Net of terror The recent spate of bombing attacks in France and West Germany has prompted security forces to believe that high-level cooperation exists between terrorist groups...

Free vote expected on Warnock

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government is expected to announce that it is to introduce legislation in the next session of Parliament to implement the main recommendations of the Warnock committee...

Tory MPs see off Labour censure

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Labour Party yesterday proved the dangers of trying to censure a Government with a parliamentary majority of 140...

Botha offers to free Mandela at a price

From Michael Hornsby, Cape Town

President Botha of South Africa yesterday offered to release Mr Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned leader of the banned African National Congress...

Kremlin politicking keeps Gorbachov at home

From Richard Owen, Moscow

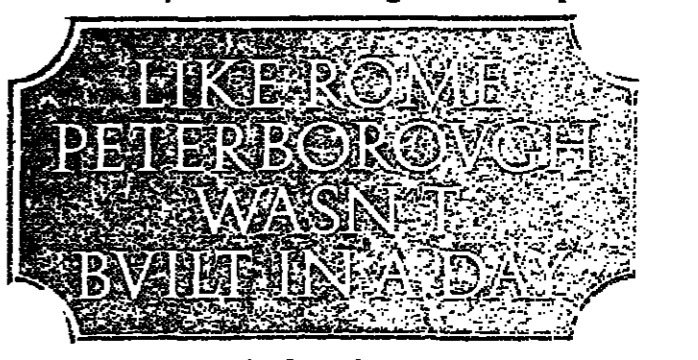
Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Kremlin number two, has decided to stay in Moscow because of Politburo manoeuvring over President Chernenko's illness rather than travel to France for the French Communist Party congress...

BR sheds 700 jobs in Glasgow

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

British Rail Engineering announced last night plans to cut its Glasgow workforce by at least 700 over the next two years...

The Cathedral alone took 43,435 days to complete. And most of those were in the 12th century.



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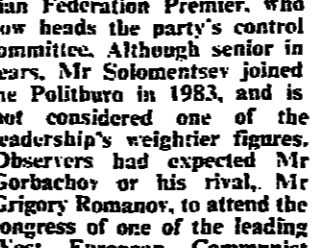
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Mr Chernenko (left) and Mr Gorbachov.

remain in the capital at a politically unsettled time.



There was surprise in Moscow at the choice of Mr Solomentsiev, the former Russian Federation Premier...

Scottish pit fire threatens face

By Staff Reporters
A fire at the Frances colliery in Fife is 50 yards from the coalface and seriously threatening its future, the coal board said yesterday.

Working and striking miners are trying to bring it under control, but the board said not enough union men were being allowed to cross picket lines.

Another fire at the Sealfield colliery, in the same complex, is also threatening a production face.

Mr Kenneth Jones, chief scientist for the board, said that heating activity and levels of carbon monoxide on the Frances face were five to six times higher than at any other time during the strike.

It was the seventh time that overheating had happened at the colliery, but the first time the board had appealed for men to bring it under control.

The workings are more than a century old, however, which makes the task of bringing material through a maze of tunnels to the fire more difficult.

● The Kiverton Park Colliery near Rotherham, will today become the seventh pit in Yorkshire to resume production since the strike began.

Yesterday, 502 miners were working on three shifts at the colliery, the scene of heavy and sometimes violent picketing in the autumn when a few men broke the strike. 48 deputies, members of Nacods, whose safety role is essential as now crossing picket lines.

● Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, told councillors from areas affected by the coal dispute yesterday that he would consider excusing from his spending target their expenditure on social services and free school meals for striking miners' families.

Doncaster, Barnsley, Wakefield and Rotherham councils estimate that they have spent from extra.

Receiver may seek end to NUM assets seizure

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Receiver appointed to take charge of the assets of the National Union of Mineworkers may soon apply to end the writ of sequestration on the ground that the £200,000 contempt fine imposed on the union has now been paid.

A statement issued yesterday by Mr G. J. Hutchings, solicitor for the Receiver, Mr Michael Arnold, on the latter's behalf, said that the Receiver had power to apply for the sequestration to be ended.

The application would be made on the ground that the Receiver "believes that it is in the interests of the NUM to get out of sequestration and because he was conscious in this regard of his responsibilities to all miners".

Whatever the result of such an application, it is unlikely that the union will have all its £8 million assets confiscated, the statement continued, "particularly in view of the number of miners who are interested in the NUM assets but who are innocent of any contempt."

On Wednesday the Receiver announced in the High Court that he had secured the £4.9 million assets which had been taken to Luxembourg. Yesterday he put his claim before the Irish Republic's High Court in Dublin for the £2.7 million lodged in the Bank of Ireland Finance Company. He may then move to recover the outstanding £260,000 in Zurich.

But yesterday's statement made clear that he hand over all the money to the sequestrators appointed to seize the assets, and that he was not merely "a conduit for the sequestrators". Mr Hutchings said that the Receiver would soon take steps to seek the appropriate directions from the court as to termination of the writ of sequestration. It will be for the court to decide, however, his proper course of action.

● The attempt to release the

£2.7 million frozen in Dublin began with allegations that the Irish High Court had been deliberately misled by someone in England (Richard Ford writes).

Mr Paul Carney, counsel for the miners' union, protested to Mr Justice Donal Barrington that a serious contempt had occurred. He vindicated Irish counsel of any charge during a series of angry exchanges with senior counsel representing the sequestrators and the Receiver.

He said that the High Court in Dublin had been assured in December that the appointment of a Receiver was not a device to prop up the sequestration of the union's funds. But, Mr Carney said, as this was being said the court in England was told that the Receiver's appointment was to aid the sequestrators.

There has been a gross misleading of the court going on, apparently in England. The court has been misled in what can only be a deliberate manner," he said.

The allegations were described by counsel for the sequestrators, the London firm of chartered accountants, Price Waterhouse, as "outrageous" and were rejected by counsel before the judge said that the case involved many difficult matters and should be given.

The miners' union is producing that orders made in the High Court in Britain cannot be enforced outside its jurisdiction, and that the penalty imposed for the contempt of court was penal rather than civil.

Mr Nial Fennelly, senior counsel for the sequestrators, outlined orders made in the High Court in London, the contempt committed by Mr Arthur Scargill in a "direct and defiant" way on television and in newspapers, and the eventual fining of the union for its contempt.

The hearing continues today.



Tory rebels hail Stansted vote

By Philip Webster and Rupert Morris

Conservative opponents of the development of Stansted Airport in north-west Essex as London's third airport were elated yesterday. They believe that the strength of the opposition they mustered in Wednesday's vote on the subject in the House of Commons must have convinced ministers of the futility of proceeding with the proposal.

The MPs' jubilation now echoed by villagers in the Stansted area, who have campaigned against the proposals for 20 years.

Seventy Tory MPs remained in the Commons until midnight on Wednesday to signify their opposition to Stansted on a technical motion to adjourn the House. The size of the revolt amazed the whips, who had been expecting far fewer than 50 rebels.

The true opposition to the development on the Tory side is in fact much nearer 100 MPs.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, still has to take a decision on the Eyns report, which advocates development although, as *The Times* reported yesterday, some senior Cabinet ministers already accept that the Stansted development is dead because it could not be got through Parliament.

Mr Malcolm Thornton, MP for Crosby and one of the

Conservative MPs who voted against the development of Stansted were:

Mr Robert Adley, Mr Nicholas Baker, Mr Tony Baly, Mr Robert Banks, Mr Spencer Baxton, Mr Peter Baker, Mr Richard Boly, Mr Martin Brandon-Brown, Sir Antony Buck, Mr Mark Carlisle, Mr Sydney Champman, Mr Winston Churchill, Dr Michael Clark, Sir Walter Clegg, Viscount Cranborne, Mr Geoffrey Dickens, Mr Terence Dick, Sir John Farr, Mr Anthony Faval, Mr Marcus Fox, Mr Cecil Franks, Mr Roy Calley, Sir Edward Gamm, Mr Eileen Griffiths, Mr Neil Hamilton, Dr Keith Hampson, Mr Kenneth Hargreaves, Mr Robert Harvey, Mr Alan Haselhurst, Mr Christopher Hawking, Mr Jeremy Hayes, Mr John Hodge, Mr Robert Hicks, Mr Kenneth Hind.

Mr Gerald Horne, Mr Robert Jackson, Mrs Brian Kelly, Mr Bowman, Mr David Kipps, Mr Geoffrey Lawler, Mr James Lester, Mr Robert McCrindle, Mrs Anne McCrindle, Mr David Maudslayi, David Maudslayi, Mr Gerald Mather, Mr Michael Mates, Mr Norman Miskampbell, Sir Hugh Munn, Sir Fergus Montgomery, Mr Charles Morrison, Mrs Elizabeth Pascoe, Sir Ian Ruskell, Mr Francis Pryn, Mr Robert Eisher James, Mr Marlon "Eve", Mr Thomas Sackville, Mr Frederick Silver, Mr Lewis Siggins, Mr Andrew Stewart, Mr David Simons, Mr Patrick Thompson, Mr Neil Thorne, Mr Malcolm Thornton, Mr Peter Thurman, Mr Bowen Wells, Mr John Wheeler, Mr John Whigdale, Mr John Wilkinson, Mr Timothy Wood and Mr Michael Woodcock.

Mr Mark Arman, secretary of the Thaxted Society, said: "It has been a cat and mouse affair for more than 20 years. I was a relatively young man when it started and I am now retired. I think we have finally won the argument, successive governments have shifted their ground and tried again."

"I hope this is the last time, and I think we now have a very reasonable chance of burying the idea for good."

British Caledonian planes, page 12

Belgrano sighting date 'was altered'

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, chief of naval staff, said yesterday that his account of the sinking of the General Belgrano had been altered by the court's jury at the General Criminal Court was last night.

Mr John made the allegation during a meeting with ministers and senior officials on the Belgrano and said his account was changed to maintain that it was sighted on the day it was sunk and not earlier.

The dispute between the admirals and civil servants over the contents of the Official Dispatch on the war, printed in the *London Gazette*, was disclosed on the fourth day of the trial of the *Clive Postings*.

Mr Postings, aged 38, an assistant secretary at the Ministry of Defence, is accused of breaching section 2 of the Official Secrets Act by passing two documents on the Belgrano to Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Lighthou.

Mr Richard Mottram, private secretary to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, described yesterday the meeting which involved ministers, Sir John, other officers, and civil servants including Mr Postings in March last year.

Under cross-examination by Mr Bruce Loughland, QC, for Mr Postings, Mr Mottram agreed that during the meeting Sir John claimed that his draft for the *London Gazette* had been changed.

A few days after the Belgrano was sunk on May 2 1982, Sir John, then the Secretary of State for Defence, had instructed to tell the Commons that the Belgrano had been first sighted that day. Sir John had at the meeting said he got the correct date, May 1, in the official report.

Mr Mottram said the admiral's claim was denied by one of the civil servants who said that it was the admiral himself who put May 2 into the Official Dispatch.

Asked yesterday if the civil servant was right, Mr Mottram said: "I can quite believe that one of the officials present made it clear that had been an attempt to alter the Dispatch in the Ministry of Defence. Whether Sir John Fieldhouse was responsible I have no idea."

He added that the original mistake had been made in the middle of a confused wartime situation.

The meeting last year, Mr Mottram said, had felt it was a pity the error was not changed in the *White Paper* on the Falklands in December 1982. At that time the war was still a state of hostilities and any information might have been useful to the Argentines.

The trial continues today.

Review to make traffic law fairer

Heavier penalties for drivers who kill through reckless driving and on-the-spot fines for lesser offences may result from a review announced by the Government yesterday.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, secretary of state for transport, said yesterday that road traffic law should be "fair, easy to understand and capable of effective enforcement".

The review board, chaired by Dr Peter North, principal of Jesus College, Oxford, will look at penalties for causing death by reckless driving, careless driving, and failure to comply with traffic signs. It will also consider the present penalty points system and the possibility of extending fixed penalties.

Laboratory to grow skin

Britain's first human skin-growing laboratory opened yesterday at Birmingham Accident Hospital, where research to help burn victims was pioneered 40 years ago.

Pieces of skin about the size of a postage stamp can be taken from the patient and grown in the laboratory into sheets many times larger. The technique will end the pain of skin grafts, leave fewer scars and be cheaper than grafting.

Murder charge for man aged 78

George Watson, aged 78, of Ashfile Close, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, was charged yesterday with the murder of Kirsty Bryant, aged seven, at his home on Tuesday. There was no application for bail at Kingston Magistrates Court and Mr Watson was remanded in custody until next Thursday.

Kirsty was found dead on Wednesday in her father's car near her home in Addison Gardens, Kingston.

Barrister wins libel damages

Miss Ann Currow, a barrister and senior Treasury counsel, won substantial libel damages in the High Court yesterday over allegations made by *The Mail on Sunday* last September that she no longer worked for the Director of Public Prosecutions or the Attorney General as a result of alleged unprofessional behaviour.

The newspaper also agreed to pay her legal costs, withdrew its allegations without reservation, and apologized for the embarrassment caused.

New life for rail station

The Gloucestershire-Warwickshire Railway Society is to demolish the 110-year-old station at Monmouth, Gwent, and rebuild it as a museum, near Cheltenham, where it will reenter service next year.

The society plans to extend its line to Winchcombe, from Toddington, near Cheltenham, and have regular steam services running by next spring.

Gun remands

Christopher Hague, aged 35, of Hayes, and Marek Raczynski, aged 24 of Uxbridge, both Middlesex, were committed for trial yesterday at the Central Criminal Court by Lambeth magistrates, accused of armed robbery, escaping from police custody, possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life, and using a firearm with intent to resist arrest.

FT talks fail

An attempt to find a long-term solution to the labour problems in the press room at yesterday's *Financial Times* failed.

Members of the union leaders said that they would urge their members to honour existing agreements and continue to produce the paper.

Cocaine fine

The top fashion designer Miss Nina Summers, aged 37, of Gieve Place, Chelsea, west London, was fined £1,000 by Lambeth magistrates yesterday after admitting possessing 2.08 grams of cocaine at Heathrow airport London.

Lost pilot named

The RAF student pilot missing presumed dead, after his Hawk training jet crashed in the Bristol Channel on Wednesday, was named yesterday as Flying Officer Guy Ward, aged 21, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Danger toys ban

Regulations banning the sale of small toys and novelties which look or smell like food and could choke children have been issued by Mr Alex Fletcher, Minister for Consumer Affairs.

Shipbuilding 'in drastic decline'

By Barrie Clement and Ronald Faux

The extension of Britain's merchant fleet and its shipbuilding capacity is now imminent, trade union leaders said yesterday.

Mr Eric Nevin, general secretary of the Merchant Navy and Airline Officers Association, and Mr John Lyons, leader of the Engineers and Managers Association, urged the Government to end its policy of "willful neglect".

Proposals to reverse the "drastic decline" of both industries were put forward in a Budget submission to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson.

The unions are seeking the reservation of coastal trades for the British flag, tax relief on seafarers' earnings, financial aid for building in home yards and capital allowances for new ships.

Their submission came as hopes of an employee buy out to save Yarrow shipbuilders on the Clyde and the Hall Russell yard in Aberdeen fell through and Portsmouth City Council was granted a high court injunction banning a ferry blockade of the port.

The council was granted an

Information, back page

Valentine gift for sale at \$2.5m

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The perfect Valentine present for the girl who has everything, a necklace composed of 39 heart-shaped diamonds and priced at \$2,500,000, is the most expensive item on offer at the International Silver and Jewellery Fair and Seminar at the Dorchester which opens today and runs until Monday. It is to be found on the stand of the London Hilton Jewellers.

In New York on Wednesday, one of the most important American collections of Chinese export porcelain came under the hammer. The 375 lots from the collection formed by the late Rafi Y. Mottahedeh and his wife, Mrs Mildred Mottahedeh, secured a total of \$921,926, with 3 per cent left unsold.

A punch bowl made for the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Charles Price, during the first decade of the nineteenth century, and decorated with a view of the Mansion House on one side and the Ironmongers' Hall on the other sold for \$19,800 (estimate \$6,000 to \$9,000), or £17,445, to Cohen and Pearce, the London dealers.

MPs to get dossier on bugging

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

A secret dossier that alleges police monitoring of trade unionists, including the bugging of meetings, is to be given to Labour members of a Commons inquiry into the Special Branch - after the refusal of Conservative MPs to receive the evidence.

Mr Jim Slatyer, general secretary of the National Union of Seaman, said yesterday he would provide information, including details of Special Branch surveillance during the 1966 seaman's strike, at an open meeting in the Commons.

The open divisions between Conservative and Labour MPs on the select committee, increasingly apparent during the two month inquiry into the Special Branch, are likely to result in at least three Labour MPs, Ms Clare Short, MP for Birmingham, Lady Wood, Mr David Winnick, MP for Wallingford, and Mr Robin Corbett, MP for Birmingham, Erdington, producing a minority report.

Mr Slatyer accused the select committee of indulging in a "sham and cover-up" by not receiving crucial evidence

Remand for four in bullion case

By Richard Dowden

Four men were remanded in custody at Bow Street Magistrates' Court last night in connection with the £26 million Brinks-Mat bullion robbery at Heathrow airport in 1983.

Edward James Patch, aged 47, of 185 Queen's Road, Bishopscott, Bristol, a car trader, Garth Victor Chappell, aged 42, of The Stoneways, Linton, near Chewton Mendips, Somerset, managing director of Seadlynn bullion dealers of Bristol, Thomas Sean Adams, aged 25, of 18 Maber House, Carnegie Street, Islington, London, an asphaltier, and Mateo Constantino, aged 66 of Wheatsone High Road, London, a jeweller, are all charged with conspiring dishonestly to handle stolen goods.

They were remanded until next Thursday. Eleven other people arrested in connection with the same case have been remanded on bail.

A High Court judge in London yesterday adjourned until Monday a hearing on an application for writs of Habeas Corpus for four of the men being held by the police.

The applications were made on behalf of Mr James Harvey and Mr Lee Groves, both of Bristol, and Mr Chappell and Mr Patch. Mr Justice Forbes adjourned the case to give the police time to be represented in court.

A man and his wife who have not been named by the police, were arrested near the Kent border yesterday morning in connection with the robbery. Commander Frank Carter, head of Scotland Yard's Flying Squad, said that there were also other people they wanted to interview.

Mr John Palmer, a goldsmith from Bath, whose house was raided by police last Tuesday, and whom the police want to question about the bullion robbery, said in Tenerife yesterday: "I am completely innocent. I know nothing about this so-called bullion raid."

Earlier his solicitor, Mr Philip Albers, said that Mr Palmer had flown to Tenerife last Friday for his annual holiday, when he had been booked last September.

Spending on technology rises by 27%

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

Support for science and technology in Britain last year totalled £371 million, an increase of 27 per cent on the previous year. Individual applications for assistance reached 2,593 in the year, a rise of 60 per cent.

The details are outlined in the *Science and Technology Report 1983-84*, published by the Department of Trade and Industry. Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology, says in the foreword that "the Government's first role is to encourage the right market conditions for innovators to thrive in".

He continues: "This means ensuring that the rewards for enterprise act as a strong and proper incentive to research in new ideas... Through it support for science and technology, the department can help to



Time for the Lords: Lady Sharples, aged 61, of Chawton in Hampshire - witness, Hall Moon in Harington" as she is styled in *Who's Who* - has called an end to her career as a publicist so that she can devote more time to her duties in the House of Lords.

Lady Sharples, whose first husband, Sir Richard Sharples, a former Conservative Minister and Governor of Bermuda, was assassinated in 1973, took over the 350-year-old inn in Somerset two years ago.

The Half Moon gained a place in the *Egon Ronay Good Pub Food Guide*.

Ridley sets date for bus changes

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, announced last night that his target date for the complete deregulation of bus transport would be the end of September next year.

He said that the market and competition would be used to solve the problems of "the fall in ridership, the rise in fares, the rise in real costs, the decline in standards and the vast increase in subsidy".

The key proposal of the legislation is the break-up and privatization of the National Bus Company which in 1982-83 had net fixed assets, on a current cost basis, of £207 million, a turnover of £677 million and a workforce of about 50,000.

Road service licensing for bus routes is to be replaced by operator licensing, allowing operators to run services wherever they feel there is a demand.

The Bill also increases the proposed transitional grant for rural services by £1 million to £21 million in the first year of operation.

But it also provides for much fiercer competition in taxi services. Taxis will be allowed to carry several passengers at separate fares.

Anti-caning mother appeals

By Janet Jarman, aged 33, accused Mr John Davies, headmaster of Y-Park Comprehensive School, Talbot Green, Mid Glamorgan, of banning her children from classes.

Mrs Jarman, of Railway Terrace, Talbot Green, was convicted last July by a magistrates' court of failing to ensure that her sons, Christopher, aged 15, and John, aged 16, attended school regularly.

Mr Stephen Sedley, QC, for Mrs Jarman, said his headmaster had used the ban as a "lever to make her change her mind about corporal punishment and nothing more."

He argued that it was Mrs Jarman's right under the European Convention on Human Rights to have her philosophical convictions respected.

The hearing continues today

Judge and witness clash at nuclear test hearing

By Pat Healy

Mr Justice McClellan, president of the Australian Royal Commission investigating in London the safety of Britain's nuclear tests in the 1950s, yesterday clashed with a key witness giving evidence about the Mosaic tests on Monte Bello Islands, off Western Australia.

The second of the two Mosaic tests caused considerable controversy in Australia at the time because of rumours of a radioactive cloud being spread across the mainland when the wind changed unexpectedly.

Vice-Admiral Sir Hugh Martell, the commodore responsible for the planning and execution of the Mosaic operation, testified several times yesterday that he still believed his statement in his report of the explosions that "the cloud never crossed the Australian mainland".

When Mr Peter McClellan, counsel assisting the commission, put statements in a series of other documents on the drift of part of the cloud across the mainland, Admiral Martell accused him of "trying to push words into my mouth."

The judge suggested that the hearing would be helped if Admiral Martell restricted himself to answering the questions put to him.

Admiral Martell told the commission that regulations for the tests which suggested that the possibility of contamination of the mainland had been considered had been drawn up because of the possibility of radioactive events that could not be predicted.

The judge asked: "Like the wind changing?" Admiral Martell agreed.

Anti-caning mother appeals

A mother whose opposition to her two sons being caned in school resulted in a £20 fine and led to their being taken into care, challenged her conviction in the High Court in London yesterday.

Mrs Janet Jarman, aged 33, accused Mr John Davies, headmaster of Y-Park Comprehensive School, Talbot Green, Mid Glamorgan, of banning her children from classes.

Mrs Jarman, of Railway Terrace, Talbot Green, was convicted last July by a magistrates' court of failing to ensure that her sons, Christopher, aged 15, and John, aged 16, attended school regularly.

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Navy chiefs ask for new mines

By Pat Healy

The Royal Navy is pressing for the introduction of new mines to come into service by the end of the decade.

Three commercial groups, led by British Aerospace, Marconi and Ferranti, are developing new anti-submarine mines to operate in the shallow waters of the Continental Shelf.

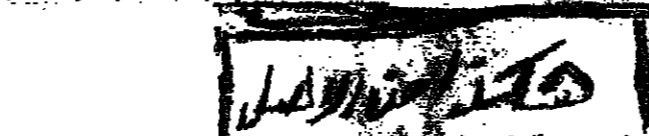
Part of the cost of the new mines may also be funded centrally by Nato, which is anxious to see that Britain would keep its sea lanes free from Soviet submarines in wartime.

The construction and technology of Britain's mines, using acoustic or magnetic detection, or a variety of both, is still antiquated by today's standards.

Mines can now be built which can lie on the ocean floor for as long as a year before being activated.

The Navy has one mine-layer HMS Abdiel and would like to see 100 more built. Its shopping list also includes 30 new submarines and 30 mine-sweepers.

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Bishops leave clergymen to decide on marrying divorced people in church

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Anglican clergymen are to be left to decide whether to marry divorced people in church.

The House of Bishops is also recommending to the General Synod of the Church of England that the rule against public "services of blessing" should be withdrawn.

If carried, couples who do not want or who are refused a church second marriage will be allowed to have a public service in church afterwards. The likely form would be a reception, in the past tense, of the substance of the marriage vows.

In practice, some clergymen have allowed such services; but the rule has prevented it from becoming the norm.

The House of Bishops agreed three points:

- Many church members favoured second marriages "in some cases"
- Clergy who believe this are free under English law to conduct such marriages.
- The ultimate decision there-fore must rest with the clergyman who, who should, never-theless, consult his bishop.

The bishops acknowledged that the rejection by 31 dioceses to 12 of the remarriage scheme they drew up a year ago meant that it was dead, as an attempt to reach a consensus had failed.

Because the bishops were the guardians of the policy against remarriage in church, their decision takes effect immediately in second marriages in church, as many clergy dis-posed towards it have been waiting for a general policy, including criteria to select suitable cases. Each may now devise his own criteria.

It seems likely that about a third of clergy will normally refuse a second marriage, about a third will pick and choose, and the rest are likely to marry more or less everyone.

But couples who live in a "hard-line" parish will not have the residential qualifications needed for a "soft" neighbour-ing parish, so there may be some attempt in the General Synod to review residential qualifications.

The synod will leave in force the rules laid down in 1938 and 1957, which do not have legal authority, stating that the church does not approve of remarriage. Bishop's willingness to leave each case to individual clergymen means that the rule will be interpreted as leaving scope for many exceptions, virtually whenever a clergyman judges it appropriate.

Deputizing doctors face fines

By Nicholas Timmins

Fifty family doctors in Leeds face disciplinary action next month over their deputizing service.

The 50 doctors belong to the 200 member Leeds Doctors' Cooperative, the biggest non-profit-making cooperative deputizing service in the country, where all 200 doctors cooperate to provide out-of-hours cover for each other.

The Leeds Family Practitioner Committee is insisting that the doctors should seek its consent to use their own self-run deputizing service under the Government's new rules for deputizing services published last May. The doctors have refused and 50 of them have been charged with breach of their terms of service.

If found guilty next month, they could face reprimand or a fine in the form of payment due to them being withheld. Dr Sadiq Ali, a member of the Family Practitioner Committee and one of the doctors charged, said yesterday they were resisting on principle the committee's demand that they should seek consent to use the service, they run.

He said, "Ours is a non-profit-making service run by the GPs themselves who cover for each other without the use of any outsiders to do the deputizing work. We are all principals recognized by the American manufacturer. Several hundred others are expected to join the action."

The Opren "action committee" claimed yesterday it had "vital new evidence" to support its claim of negligence against Eli Lilly and its British subsidiaries, including Disia Products, which marketed the drug in Britain.

If the committee succeeds, it is thought that it would be the first exemplary punishment of a drug firm for negligence in Britain.

The committee chairman, Mrs Kathleen Grasham, said that the evidence would put the parent company and its British subsidiaries under intense pressure to settle the claims against it.

The evidence is not being disclosed, because of the planned legal action. But Dr Andrew Herxheimer, a clinical pharmacology lecturer and drug expert for two international organizations, said that it was based on evidence published in medical and scientific journals of several countries.

That evidence was not presented to the Committee on Safety of Medicines when Opren was licensed for sale in Britain, he alleged.

Opren was withdrawn throughout the world in 1982 after suspicions that it had side effects including bone marrow damage, kidney complaints and liver and kidney failure. The action committee says that the safety committee was notified of nearly 4,000 suspected cases in Britain, including 83 deaths.

Prisons chaplain dies of Aids

By Michael Horsnell

A prison chaplain died in hospital yesterday from Aids. The death caused a scare at two prisons where screening of his known contacts was ordered.

The Rev Gregory Richards, aged 37, an Australian bachelor and homosexual, died in Chelmsford and Essex Hospital two weeks after being admitted. Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) was diagnosed on Tuesday, but it had been suspected since his admission with a form of double pneumonia.

Mr Richards, chaplain at Chelmsford Prison and Bullwood Hall women's prison at Hockley, Essex, was unconscious throughout his stay in isolation on a ventilator. He died from a second heart attack.

Last night, Mr John Penson, governor of Chelmsford Prison in Essex, declined to comment, but it is understood that he reassured staff and prisoners over his advice from Dr Tony Kirkland, district medical officer of the Mid-Essex health authority which is investigating. About 360 offenders, mainly young, are held at Chelmsford and more than 100 women at Bullwood Hall.

Before taking up his posts in 1982, Mr Richards was assistant chaplain at Wormwood Scrubs from 1979-80 and chaplain at Camp Hill Prison, Isle of Wight, from 1980-81.

Dr Kirkland said: "There is no reason for panic at the prisons or the hospital. The prognosis was bad from January 17, when he was admitted. In the end his heart could not cope any longer."

"Because he was unconscious all the time he was in hospital we are unaware of any contacts he may have had." No post mortem examination has been ordered because it is an unsafe procedure in such a case and scientifically unnecessary.

The body had been sealed in a plastic container until Mr Richards's parents, who have arrived from Australia, decide on its disposal.

Steve's father, Hillary, born in 1965, was named after Sir Edmund Hillary, conqueror of Everest, but the mother, Dawn, presents a problem. She was born in 1968 but no one at the zoo can remember which Dawn she was named for. Similar doubts surround giraffes Judy, Glyn, Mary and Jill.

Steve was, at 5ft 6in, rather small for a young giraffe. He is gaining height rapidly and could reach 15ft.

He is the latest in a line of breeding successes at the Cotton Terraces in the past year, which includes Tessa the Tapir, and Henny, the Okapi. All the animals in the section will be in an exhibition, to be opened in the summer.



Paternal pride: London Zoo's new giraffe, Steve, with his father Hillary. (Photograph: Jonathan Player)

Steve the giraffe given a champion's name

By Robin Young

London Zoo's new giraffe, Steve, born on January 10, made his first public appearance yesterday. Steve, an East African giraffe, is named after Steve Davis, the world snooker champion, in accordance with a tradition at the zoo that giraffes take their names from sporting personalities.

Steve's father, Hillary, born in 1965, was named after Sir Edmund Hillary, conqueror of Everest, but the mother, Dawn, presents a problem. She was born in 1968 but no one at the zoo can remember which Dawn she was named for. Similar doubts surround giraffes Judy, Glyn, Mary and Jill.

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Judge Ruben will pass sentence today.

Phone box staff stole millions, court told

Seventeen British Telecom staff members, whose job it was to count the cash from all telephone boxes in London, stole millions of pounds in 50p pieces in 18 months, a court was told yesterday.

They were finally caught during a police raid called Operation Bluebox at British Telecom's only London centre for counting telephone box cash. Mr Martin Sperry, for the prosecution, said at Kingston upon Thames Crown Court.

Thirteen men and four women pleaded guilty to stealing sums of up to £14,000 from Wheatstone House, Chiswick High Road, west London.

Most of them ran new cars and lived in luxury houses, one was having a swimming pool built, and others had bank accounts in Spain where they had two or three holidays a year. Mr Sperry said.

One man, when asked by the police to estimate the total amount taken by him and the staff, had replied: "By me, about £3,000 to £4,000 and by the whole staff more than the Great Train Robbery."

Mr Sperry said that at Wheatstone House, a staff of 30, all described as telephonists, handled 2,100 to 2,300 coin boxes a night.

On 34 separate days early last year, 18 or 19 of the sealed boxes were diverted to a warehouse and counted before going to Wheatstone House. Out of a total of 650 boxes £2,500 was stolen in 50p pieces.

The trap was sprung on March 15. Ninety boxes had their contents replaced with marked 50p coins and police officers arrested all the staff as they drove home.

They were found to have £2,200 in 50p coins in their pockets. Mr Sperry said: "But that might not have been a typical night, for only three days earlier, according to some of those arrested, the staff held a meeting of the Union of Communication Workers where it was made known that controls were to be introduced on the counting of 50p pieces."

"And it was not only those who counted the coins who walked away with money", he said. "Those counting the cash passed pouchfuls to those unlucky enough to be on other duties that night."

Judge Ruben will pass sentence today.

Stores link with banks to push cashless shopping

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

The banks and credit card companies are to go ahead with a nationwide cashless shopping system.

The scheme has enthusiastic backing from retailers and within two years the multi-million pound system should be operating in big stores in a handful of cities. By 1990 it should be available nationwide in most large supermarkets, retail outlets, and petrol stations.

Called electronic funds transfer at the point of sale, the system will allow shoppers to pay for goods with most types of plastic cards including credit cards, debit cards and cheque guarantee cards.

Electronic terminals in shops read the magnetic strip on the card, the shopper punches in his personal identification number and his account is debited automatically.

Bankers estimate the total cost at up to £300 million over a period of years, including the investment by retailers and British Telecom, BT and IBM, the computer company, will initially provide the network linking retailers with the banks. The initial outlay by the banks on central costs will be £20 million.

The decision to forge ahead with cashless shopping, with eventually 250,000 terminals, follows lengthy discussions with the Retail Consortium.

Other financial institutions such as building societies will be able to join in, if they meet the criteria, and a company is being set up to operate the system.

Banks are keen on the system because it will help to reduce the volume of paper in the banking system. Bankers say it will also be a more convenient and speedy way of paying for customers.

Bank customers will soon be able to settle their gas and electricity bills by microcomputer-controlled teller machines placed outside the bank (Our Technology Correspondent writes).

The units, designed and manufactured by NCR in Dundee, will also be available at building societies. The microcomputers allow money to be transferred electronically from the user's to the supplier's account.

The machines will be built into the wall of a building society or bank.

Acorn, one of the top suppliers of home computers, yesterday reduced its distributor network from 17 to six in an attempt to give the distributors a better profit margin and prevent any of them competing with each other.

Cruelty hearing told of monkeys' escape attempts

Monkeys at the Royal College of Surgeons' research farm tried to chew their way through metal cages to escape, a court hearing allegations of cruelty against the college was told yesterday.

Mr Bruce Bidewell, a senior animal technician, who used the work at the Buckton Browne research farm at Downe, Kent, where 250 macaque monkeys were kept, told Bromley magistrates that some of the animals died or were injured while trying to escape.

In August last year, animal rights protesters broke into the farm and released animals they claimed were cruelly treated during experiments.

The magistrates, who asked that their names should not be reported, earlier ruled that documents stolen in the raid were inadmissible as evidence.

The hearing was adjourned until February 11.

A Hungarian refugee killed two innocent people during his vendetta against the Soviet Union. Reading Crown Court was told yesterday.

Albert Belej, aged 56, was tortured by the Russians in Hungary and vowed revenge when he escaped in 1957.

He decided that another Hungarian, Mr Laszlow Toth, was a Soviet spy and poured petrol into what he thought was his house in Jubilee Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

But the house belonged to Mr Muhammad Hussain, aged 35, Mr Toth's neighbour, and Mr Hussain and his son, Mahmood, aged 17, died in the fire.

Belej, of Benjamin Road, High Wycombe, denied two murder charges and his pleas of guilty to two counts of manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility were accepted. The judge ordered him to be detained indefinitely.

Hundreds to sue Opren firm in British courts

By Patricia Clough

More than 700 people who claim that their health was damaged by the anti-arthritis drug Opren are to seek exemplary damages in British courts against the American manufacturer. Several hundred others are expected to join the action.

The Opren "action committee" claimed yesterday it had "vital new evidence" to support its claim of negligence against Eli Lilly and its British subsidiaries, including Disia Products, which marketed the drug in Britain.

If the committee succeeds, it is thought that it would be the first exemplary punishment of a drug firm for negligence in Britain.

The committee chairman, Mrs Kathleen Grasham, said that the evidence would put the parent company and its British subsidiaries under intense pressure to settle the claims against it.

The evidence is not being disclosed, because of the planned legal action. But Dr Andrew Herxheimer, a clinical pharmacology lecturer and drug expert for two international organizations, said that it was based on evidence published in medical and scientific journals of several countries.

That evidence was not presented to the Committee on Safety of Medicines when Opren was licensed for sale in Britain, he alleged.

Opren was withdrawn throughout the world in 1982 after suspicions that it had side effects including bone marrow damage, kidney complaints and liver and kidney failure. The action committee says that the safety committee was notified of nearly 4,000 suspected cases in Britain, including 83 deaths.

Death trial farmer 'had debts'

From Tim Jones Bristol

A bank manager told Bristol Crown Court yesterday that Graham Backhouse had debts of £71,000 on the day that his wife, Margaret, was severely injured when a bomb exploded inside the family car.

Mr Richard Martin, manager of the National Westminster Bank branch at Chipping Sodbury, Avon, described how the debts rose from £15,000 in four years and said that because of bad harvests the Backhouse family had been "worrying themselves silly."

He added: "The worry and pressure had caused disagreements between them". On one occasion, Mr Martin said, he had "read the riot Act" to Mr Backhouse.

The Crown alleges that Mr Backhouse tried to murder his wife in order to claim £100,000 life insurance money, and then murdered his neighbour, Mr Colin Bedale-Taylor, aged 63, because he needed a scapegoat when he realized that he was the prime suspect.

Mr Backhouse, of Widderr Hill Farm, Horton, Avon, has pleaded not guilty.

Mr Martin said Mr Backhouse had told him that since his father died there was nobody to criticize him or pull him up and he felt that had made him slipshod in the administration of his farm.

By November 1983, Mr Martin said, the farm had experienced its third bad harvest in succession. "As a result they had definitely decided to sell some land to ease their financial commitments and domestic problems which were beginning to emerge."

The case continues today.

AA defends vehicle excise tax

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The Automobile Association said yesterday that with the £2 gallon of petrol in sight because of the weakness of sterling against the dollar, any move in the budget to replace vehicle excise duty by increased tax on petrol would put an unjustified burden on the motorist.

The AA calculates that it would require an extra 25p a gallon to compensate for the loss of car tax, assuming a registration fee of £10.

The average motorist, covering 3,500 miles a year, would be £19 a year worse off. Those covering less than 6,800 miles would gain.

In its submission to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the AA said that, based on 30 miles a gallon, the 10,000-miles-a-year motorist would pay £36 more; at 16,000 miles, £106 more; at 20,000 miles, £153 more; and 25,000 miles, £211 more.

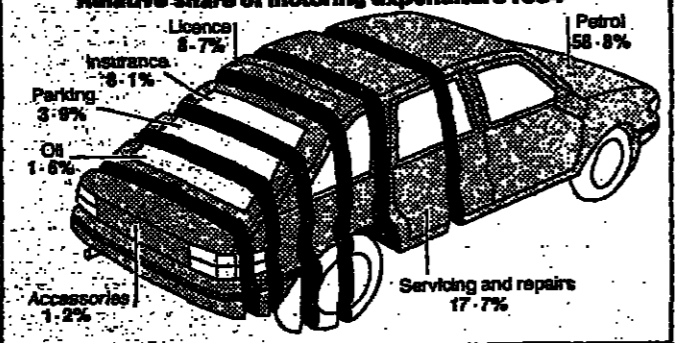
The burden would fall on those who drive to work by car, live in rural areas.

The AA's director general, Mr Otaf Lambert, said such a radical change was not justifiable because the £90 million that would be lost in excise duty evasion this financial year was much lower than the Government had estimated.

He urged the Government to tackle excise duty evasion by using the Driving Vehicle Licence Centre at Swansea to identify and track down the owners of vehicles not licensed.

"The law-abiding majority should not have to pay for a minority of offenders."

Mr Lambert told a press conference in London yesterday: "Increases in prices inflict extra, unavoidable costs that directly or indirectly affect all groups, adding to inflationary pressures."



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Opponents like boxers, judge says

The judge in the Dallas libel case, yesterday compared Mrs Hazel Pinder-White and Mr Jonathan Aitken to boxers in the ring. But they were both in "the blue corner", and it was for the jury to decide whether it was a flyweight or heavyweight contest.

Mr Justice Caudfield told the High Court that Mrs Pinder-White was "as good a Tory as you will find south of Watford". Mr Aitken was the Conservative MP she helped to elect.

"She says he virtually called her a harlot. Mr Aitken says he did not, it was only a ribbing and she could not take the fun. Mr Aitken said he recognized she was upset and distressed and apologized. She says the apology was begrudging."

She wanted him to go on his knees in Viking Bay, Broadstairs, and tell the entire population he was sorry. He said she wanted too much.

The judge told the jury to decide if she wanted "a confession, contrition and satisfaction, metaphorically, she says, to be performed in a proper penitential position on the sands of Broadstairs."

Mrs Pinder-White is suing Mr Aitken, MP for Thanet South, over his proposal in the magazine *East Kent Chronicle* in 1981 for an "East Kent version of the television series *Dad's Army*".

Mrs Pinder-White complains that Mr Aitken compared her with the Ethan, and that meant she was like the character, an alcoholic adulteress.

Mr Patrick Milmo, giving his final defence speech, said the jury might feel that Mrs Pinder-White, of Harbour Street, Broadstairs, Kent, was inclined to overreaction and overstatement.

"She may have struck you as a lady who is quick to take offence, especially where her late husband is concerned. She was closely associated with him and his campaigns and, you may feel, she enjoyed his local fame and didn't like people having a little dig at him."

Mr Pinder-White, a retired company director, died a few months after publication of the article.

Mr Richard Rampton, for Mrs Pinder-White, said that when Mr Aitken called Mr


Pinder-White and his supporters "a little group of well heeled Broadstairs ratepayers" that was a clue to what Mr Aitken felt.

"Far from being a playful dig, the Dallas article is what it appears to be - a deliberate and malicious attempt to discredit the Pinder-Whites in the eyes of the community."

The jury is expected to reach a verdict today.

City calls time

Southampton city council is to object to the renewal of the licences of many public houses in the centre of the city on environmental health grounds as part of a campaign to improve amenities for tourists.



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From Friday 1 February the General Extension Rate offered on many matured Issues of National Savings Certificates is increased to 9% p.a., tax-free, until further notice.

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Labour ignores all the good things - PM

THE ECONOMY

In 1974 when it came to office, the Labour Party introduced the same quick remedies as it was advocating today, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, declared when she replied in the Commons to the first motion of censure tabled in this Parliament by the official Opposition. In moving it Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour Party leader, had charged the Government with being column dodgers and deserters of the national interest.

Mrs Thatcher retorted that Labour policy would make the prospect for inflation even worse. High interest rates emphasized she said, how important it was to exercise the tightest control on Government spending and borrowing. What the Opposition was complaining about was that the Government had the guts to take the measures necessary to maintain its strategy.

When Mr Kinnock opened the debate, he said that the Prime Minister wanted a land fit for speculators, the people she admired. Bad news for Britain was bad news for everyone, but it was much worse for small businesses, young house-buyers, and those who would lose their living because of speculators. Mr Kinnock moved an Opposition motion censuring the Government for its gross mismanagement of the British economy which had led to the highest real interest rates, the worst manufacturing trade deficit and the highest level of unemployment in the history of Great Britain.

He said the Government's policies had brought the turmoil of recent weeks and had inflicted on the country dreadful uncertainties about the future.

The question the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer must answer was how their regime had made a modern industrialized economy with a wealth of energy resources and revenues denied to many competitors into the punching bag of the world's currency speculators.

How did they let Britain's affairs (he asked) get into the state where a wobble in international oil prices or the strength of the dollar knocked the economy sprawling, brings a 4 per cent increase in interest rates over a fortnight and imposes massive excess costs on industries and households?

In asking that question the Opposition was not talking the £ down or selling Britain short. Our complaint (he said) is that the Government is selling Britain out. We are not delighting in the misfortunes of our country. We see too much suffering amongst our people to take any joy in the condition our country is in.

Bad news was much worse for the small business that had to borrow than it was for the big corporation with massive assets; for the young housebuyer than for the property magnate; for those who would lose their living because of the speculators and the interest rate rises than for those who made their living by speculation and interest rises.

These people were parasites who contributed nothing and inflicted dreadful harm on the country. When it suited the Prime Minister, MPs were told that these parasites were people of enterprise and audacity, the risk-taking people Mrs Thatcher admired. She wanted a land fit for speculators. She liked these parasites when they were making a killing out of buying and selling.

But when they turned their pound gains into dollar purchases and took their money out of sterling, she began to think of them as irrational and irresponsible. Such was her schizophrenia; but this was something of a euphemism for hypocrisy.

Sacking was a fitting fate for the Chancellor. Other people's jobs should not depend on a man who did his own job so badly.

Amid laughter, Mr Kinnock made a slight change in the expression the Prime Minister was said to have used to a man reported to have propositioned her on an official function. Mrs Thatcher, he said should say of Mr Lawson: "He has very good taste but we don't think he is really up to it."

insecurity, instability, interest rate rises and increased unemployment were laid when Mrs Thatcher went to Downing Street and Chancellors of the Exchequer had been garnering the woods ever since.

But it is not just the personality (he went on) that has to be changed. It is the policies as well. And I hope that faced with that the Prime Minister is not going simply to resort to that litany of doctored statistics, half truths and misrepresentations which have become her stock-in-trade when she switches to autopilot on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons (Prime Minister's questions time).

He hoped Mrs Thatcher would not say Britain had the highest gross national product ever as that was commonplace before she became Prime Minister. Or that it had the highest investment ever and forget to say that manufacturing investment was still 30 per cent below its 1979 level. Or talk about the highest retail sales without admitting it had been achieved by a £70 billion increase in household debt and a 53 per cent rise in manufactured imports.

The Government had borrowed £50 billion in five years when they had planned to borrow £30 billion.

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Steel: Oil revenues have been wasted

Mrs Thatcher should acknowledge, he said, the Earl of Stockton's phrase that Labour borrowed to produce while she had borrowed to meet the bills of slump.

The Government (he added) has sustained that level of borrowing at a time when she has been getting more oil revenues in a month than the Labour Government got in its whole five years. Today she should be explaining what she and her Chancellors have been doing with all of the money, and she should also be explaining what they are going to do now, here in this House, and not on radio and television chat shows.

Since the instability of recent weeks will not be the last scare over oil prices, since it will not be the last condition our British industries and revenue, since these events will, under this Government, cause lurches in the exchange rate, what is the Government going to do about it next time?

The Government should listen to those telling it that today's difficulties came from its laxity and that it should toughen up its policies. The Chancellor, he said, might accuse the speculators that spending targets would be cut. The speculators might not believe him and reply that he always overshoots the targets and, to quote *The Times*, says there were "less imposed by targets than by aches and pains."

A 2 per cent or £3 billion cut in Government spending for example would increase unemployment by a quarter to half a million people and £5 billion to £3 billion of benefits and lost revenues. Britain will be poorer (he added), the queue miles longer and yet again the market system will have responded to an economic crisis by destroying jobs and disabling the means of production.

The Prime Minister's beloved markets (he said) still insist they want more. They are still not satisfied by the policies of the last five years. They still demonstrate their irrationality, their irresponsibility and their complete lack of patriotism.

The Labour Party recognized the market's fact of life. Because of its irrationality and selfishness, any Government had a basic duty to take and keep powers that ensured they could protect their citizens against the capriciousness and the moods of the people in the markets who felt no sense of public obligation.

Governments should take and keep powers to control the flow of money overseas, to establish minimum lending rates and to control the level of production of a vital asset like North Sea oil. Governments should retain a level of convertible currency reserves that enabled it to intervene if necessary to meet contingencies. They should actively work for international economic co-operation.

And (he added) a Government has a responsibility, too, to seek a high and stable level of employment.

All these duties of protection and support and opportunity have been abdicated by this Government. They have willfully abandoned every other objective and instrument for safeguarding the people of this country. Four million and more in our country now live in a state of economic peril. This Government feels no obligation whatsoever to policies for generating employment.

There high interest rates emphasized she said, how important it was to exercise the tightest control on government spending and borrowing. Had the Government not exercised such control the interest rate would have had to be even higher. The Opposition lost no opportunity to talk inflation up.

The only proper foundation was the discipline a government imposed on itself. The Labour Party had made the biggest cuts, damaging education, science, transport and housing. Scotland and Wales, investment in the NHS by 35 per cent.

Mr Kinnock said the Labour Party (he said) did not have even the beginning of an alternative economic strategy. Mr Kinnock's purpose in tabling the motion is not to help the unemployed. He has nothing to offer them. Nor is it to strengthen the economy. He has no strategy for that.

Nor is it to win confidence. His prescription would destroy that.

The censure motion is bogus. It deserves to be, and will be, overwhelmingly defeated. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, said they could not go on having statements about how wonderful the economy was when people could see with their own eyes that these statements were untrue.

High interest rates had been caused by Government incompetence, particularly by the Chancellor. They saw Mr Lawson falling around lethargically and then pushing round "letting everyone to keep their heads above water."

The Chancellor's single-minded obsession to indulge in tax cuts as the biggest priority in the next budget had not impressed anyone.

There had been a serious loss of manufacturing capacity. There were projects up and down the country on which there could be capital spending, both private and public.

Oil revenues should have been used for investment both in the form of capital (training and education) and not simply to extend indefinitely current expenditure on an ever-lengthening debt queue as the Government had done. These revenues had been wasted. People were entitled to ask when the promised recovery was coming.

Mr Peter Horwood (Horsham, C) said the situation did not even begin to rate as a crisis when compared to 1982, when Mr Lawson, then Chancellor, came to the House at 3.20 am and announced that the banks and Stock Exchange had been closed for three days.

Mr Horwood said that the International Monetary Fund was going to lend Britain \$5 billion, that purchase tax was to rise by 10 per cent, that four shillings would be put on a bottle of whisky, a penny on a pint of beer, and so on.

As for retreating some of the substantial investment overseas, as suggested by Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, what would this do if it were not to raise the exchange rate to such a level as to put manufacturing industry out of work?

Substantial investment, direct and in portfolio investment overseas would stand Britain in good stead for many years to come.

The Chancellor should not have spoken of £1.5 billion to come in tax cuts. It wrongly gave the impression that the Government was going soft about inflation. He begged the Chancellor not to talk about giveaways but to remain as silent as he could about the prospects.

Throughout the speech when Mr Kinnock had the choice of standing up to the NUM leadership he had done so. He had done so in the face of union rules and when he was threatened by violence. He had done so against the democratic wishes of local miners.

Never once had Mr Kinnock urged the NUM to accept the agreement negotiated by Nocolo, on exactly the same terms as was available to the NUM.

He (she said) challenge him to urge the NUM to accept the NACODS agreement. The Government never wanted the strike to start.

Mr Kinnock had spoken five of the serious prospect of office, but nothing, undirected, the irresponsibility of the Labour Party more than the abandonment in opposition of the reasons which really, and not to let him in office.

In Government, Labour had implemented measures on economic grounds, but in Opposition they pretended it had not happened. Labour had made the biggest cuts, damaging education, science, transport and housing. Scotland and Wales, investment in the NHS by 35 per cent.

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Thatcher accuses pit union leaders

COAL DISPUTE

The miners had been humiliated by the NUM economy, which did not allow them to limit, prevented them from accepting the best offer available, and had to pay a price of £2,000 per ton, and made many families suffer, privation, isolation and distress, Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said.

She was replying to Mr Gavin Stanger (Edinburgh, East Lab) who had asked: Will you explain to the House why she is opposed to the resumption of negotiations without pre-conditions between the NUM and NCB? Is it because she is intent on trying to humiliate the members of the NUM? (Some Conservative MPs: "Why not?")

Mr Thatcher: I am sure that the miners have been humiliated and that the NCB has been humiliated. I am sure that the miners have been humiliated and that the NCB has been humiliated. I am sure that the miners have been humiliated and that the NCB has been humiliated.

Mr Thatcher: As I understand him, he is fully behind the strike which is intended to deprive people of power for industry and for heating their houses.

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PM keen to pursue Macmillan policies

UNEMPLOYMENT

Challenged during question time in the House of Commons by Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, to say when she would take the advice of the Earl of Stockton, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said she would happily endorse the former Prime Minister's policy of keeping public spending down.

Mr Kinnock said: In view of the appalling rise of 150,000 in unemployment for the last year will the Prime Minister tell us at what point she is going to change her policy and take the wise counsel of the Earl of Stockton and others of her elders and betters?

Mrs Thatcher: That is where Labour's policies landed them and that is where their policies would land them again if their policies were introduced. Leader of the SDP Dr David Owen: Now that the Government has said it would like to have checked the side of the pound if we had the mechanism, the exchange rate stop shilly-shallying EMS, will it stop shilly-shallying EMS and join the EMS in the next few days?

Mrs Thatcher: We have always said we will join the EMS when we believe the time is appropriate. It is kept under review from time to time. We will not join the EMS until we believe the time is appropriate. It is kept under review from time to time.

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Statement soon on Sunday trading laws

SHOPS ACT

The Government will shortly set out its position on easing restrictions on Sunday trading, Mr David Mellor, Under-Secretary of State, Home Office, announced during questions in the Commons.

The Home Secretary said that the Home Office was currently conducting a survey of public opinion on Sunday trading. He said that the Government was committed to a policy of reform of the Shops Act.

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Brittan resists call to end licence fee

BROADCASTING

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, resisted calls from Labour MPs in the Commons for either ending the television licence fee for pensioners or scrapping it altogether.

He said it would cost £250 million a year for the Treasury to pay pensioners licence fees and £700 million to subsidise the fee. There was also mixed response to the suggestion of allowing advertisements on the BBC.

Mr Brittan said that the Government was committed to a policy of reform of the Broadcasting Act. He said that the Government was committed to a policy of reform of the Broadcasting Act.

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Annan says cut BBC bureaucracy

HOUSE OF LORDS

Office, said Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, was aware that the BBC's current application for an increase in the television licence fee had focused interest in alternative ways of raising finance, but had reached no firm decision on whether or how the matter should be studied further.

Lord Orr-Ewing (C) who initiated the discussion, then asked: Would he consider the advantages of setting up a committee not only to consider new ways of raising money but also to consider in which ways the BBC might prune or shut down some of their services while preserving the public service broadcasting?

Lord Elton: The Home Secretary does not envisage any radical change in the licence fee structure in the forthcoming settlement but he does not have a closed mind in the longer term. I will draw Lord Orr-Ewing's comments to his attention.

Lord Annan: There can be ways of pruning the higher ranks of the bureaucracy of the BBC.

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Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Debate on Opposition motion on the mining dispute. Tuesday: Films Bill, Shipbuilding Bill and Milk (Cessation of Production) Bill, remaining stages. Wednesday: Rate Limitation (Pre-empted) Bill, remaining stages. Thursday: Water Authorities (Retention of Assets) Bill, remaining stages. Friday: Transport and London Regional Transport (Levy) Order.

The main business in the House of Lords will be: Monday: Intelligence Bill, committee, second day. Tuesday: Administration of Justice Bill, committee, second day. Wednesday: Debates on civil liberties and on Greenfield report on prescription. Thursday: Insolvency Bill, committee, third day.

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Review of last year's rainfall: 2

July storms interrupt long dry summer

By John Grimley

Although Londoners and many other southerners were scarcely aware of having passed through a winter, there was a good deal of snow from the Midlands northwards in the early months of 1984. Even in the north, however, there was no sustained period of coldness and snow cover as happened in 1946-47 and 1962-63. In blizzards at the beginning of the year and about January 17-23, there were a number of fatalities in the snow and associated strong winds. A milder spell towards the end of January brought a gradual snow melt.

Weather was drier from about February 8 but, in a short unsettled spell towards the end of the third week, exceptionally heavy rain fell in Northern Ireland, the general depth over the Province for February 19-20 being 33mm. Much of the February precipitation was in the form of snow.

Many places were rather dry from March 4-23; at Crief, for example, only 2mm was recorded and many parts of Britain experienced a rain-free week from March 16. A period of unsettled weather began on March 23 when amounts exceeded 30mm at a number of locations from Dartmoor to the North West Highlands.

Over Northern Ireland, March 23, with a average of 31mm, was one of the wettest days of recent years. At Rottal Lodge, Angus, 188mm was measured in four days from March 23. There were reports of snow on 24 days in March.

In the dry April, a few small areas of southern Britain, notably on the south east flanks of the Cotswolds, measured no rainfall but, in the north, the earlier part of the month was unsettled. The first long rain-free period of the year began about April 11 in south-east England - a little later in the north - and it lasted until early May. Three weeks without rain were general except in north and central Scotland. At Ipswich, 35 consecutive dry days were recorded from April 12 and dry periods in South Wales were almost as long.

Much of the first three weeks of May remained mainly dry, and over most of Scotland and Northern Ireland there was little rain on any day in May. The case was otherwise in England, particularly in the east, where heavy rainfall from May 20-27 did much to check the developing drought and lessen the effects of the coming dry months.

The wettest day of the year over the period, and of the year, over



Dartmoor ponies feeding on the grass of a dried-up water course last July.

ent. Norfolk, on August 4 and 60mm at Luton on August 5. From August 7, more settled weather prevailed but there were one or two significant exceptions in the London area and Thames valley as far west as Reading, heavy thunderstorms gave large totals in a short period. In Surrey, 79mm fell near Redhill. But, in many parts of Britain there were two to three weeks without rain from August 7.

Weather was more unsettled in the first fortnight of September, although most of the significant rainfall was in the north and west. Heavy rainfall from north Devon to north-east England on September 3, gave many places in northern England and Thames valley as far west as Reading, heavy thunderstorms gave large totals in a short period. In Surrey, 79mm fell near Redhill. But, in many parts of Britain there were two to three weeks without rain from August 7.

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Ambo, Essex and Maze Green, Hertfordshire: at many places, there were eight hours of more or less continuous thunderstorms.

October 17 saw the start of the most persistent spell of heavy rainfall in western hills since the autumn of 1983. The spell lasted, with brief respites, until October 24 and during this period, totals of 22 to 270mm were reported on the south-west moors, the Welsh hills, the Pennines and Scottish hills.

Thoroughly unsettled and generally very mild weather persisted throughout November and few places experienced as many as three consecutive days without rain.

Heavy rain was also recorded on the last four days in Wales and south-west England. In the west of November on record for Scotland, three times the average monthly rainfall was measured in Aberdeenshire.

The unsettled weather continued for about five days in December but a mainly dry week followed in southern Britain. This drier spell was shorter in the north.

Weather became much colder from Boxing Day with sleet and snow showers as far south as the Chiltern Hills but, in general, severe wintry weather was still holding off at the year's end.

I wish to thank the director-general of the Meteorological Office for permission to use material held by the office, in the compilation of this summary.

Concluded

Children may miss school if NUT action goes ahead

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Children will be sent home from school in some areas or told not to attend lessons at all from next Wednesday if the action planned by the National Union of Teachers goes ahead.

The biggest teachers' union said yesterday that it was urging all its 235,000 members in England and Wales to undertake six sanctions from February 6 in support of its pay claim for a £1,300 increase for all teachers.

Union members are being urged to:

- refuse to cover for absent colleagues where the absence is known in advance and, in other cases, after the first day of the absence;
- refuse to supervise pupils during the lunch break or to stay on school premises during that time;
- refuse to do administrative or accounting jobs connected with school meals;
- refuse to attend staff, departmental or year meetings held outside school hours, or to attend parents' meetings outside school hours;
- refuse to take part in any sporting, musical, dramatic or club activities at lunchtime.

The union's decision to take unilateral action before negotiations with the local authority employers have been exhausted was condemned by other teachers' organizations. They

argued that it would achieve nothing and be damaging for public relations.

Mr Philip Merridale, leader of the employers' side in the teachers' pay negotiations and chairman of the education committee at the Association of County Councils, called it the "Scargill technique". Arguing that it was taking teachers up a blind alley, he said it would elicit no sympathy from parents.

"A review of where they are going and how the NUT has got them into this position will convince most sensible teachers that this is not the thing to do", he said.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, called the action lunacy. "I would have regarded industrial action this year as a major error of judgement, but to take industrial action now, before negotiations have broken down, is an act of sheer lunacy."

Mr Peter Smith, of the Assistant Mistresses' and Masters' Association, said the union's action would cause chaos.

The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, the second biggest union with 120,000 members, will decide today what to do.

French to build new ferry port

By Michael Bally, Transport Editor

France is to spend £25 million on a challenge to the British-dominated cross-Channel ferry service, it was announced in Paris yesterday.

A new ferry port is to be built at Caen, where many British soldiers landed after D-Day, to provide a five-hour crossing from Portsmouth, the fastest growing ferry port on the south coast.

Brittany Ferries will operate two sailings a day from June next year with an 8,000-ton ferry which can carry 350 cars and 1,200 passengers.

The decision to develop Caen as a cross-Channel port has been ratified by the French Government in the face of strong opposition from Le Havre and Cherbourg.

Caen is connected to Paris by a motorway and turbo trains and also provides a fast direct route from Britain to south-west France.

Brittany Ferries, founded by a co-operative of Breton farmers in the early 1970s, expects to carry 350,000 passengers a year on the new route.

Boys accused

Two boys aged 14 and 15 were remanded on bail yesterday for three weeks, accused of burglary, after Cardiff magistrates were told that they stole a large amount of property, including radio equipment, from a police station.

Health staff angered by pay warning

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Health service staff have accused Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, of putting political pressure on the independent review bodies that recommend their pay in an attempt to keep pay rises next year down to the Government's 3 per cent limit.

In a break with tradition, Mr Clarke has led the Department of Health and Social Security's team giving evidence to the review body on the pay of nurses and the professions allied to medicine such as those of physiotherapists and radiographers. Next week he is due to do the same at the doctors and dentists review body.

Mr Clarke is understood to have warned the review body that any pay increase above 3 per cent will mean patients suffering with a reduction on the number of beds and wards, and cuts in services.

The Government has announced that it will not fund any increase above the 3 per cent limit, leaving health authorities to find the money from their existing budgets.

Since staff costs represent more than 70 per cent of the health service's budget that could mean big cuts in staffing if the rises are above 3 per cent.

The staff side, representing the physiotherapists and radiographers, wrote to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, yesterday to protest against the political pressure being applied to the independent review body.

Delays in police reports 'harming the poor'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Lawyers are alleging damaging delays by the police in producing reports for people who might have to go to court in traffic cases.

Harm is being done to poor people, according to the Law Society's *Guardian Gazette*.

A letter in the journal yesterday from a Southampton firm of solicitors, Berriton & Co, says the delays can delay the granting of legal aid in personal injury cases.

Such action could include loss of wages and the client's having to pay for car repairs.

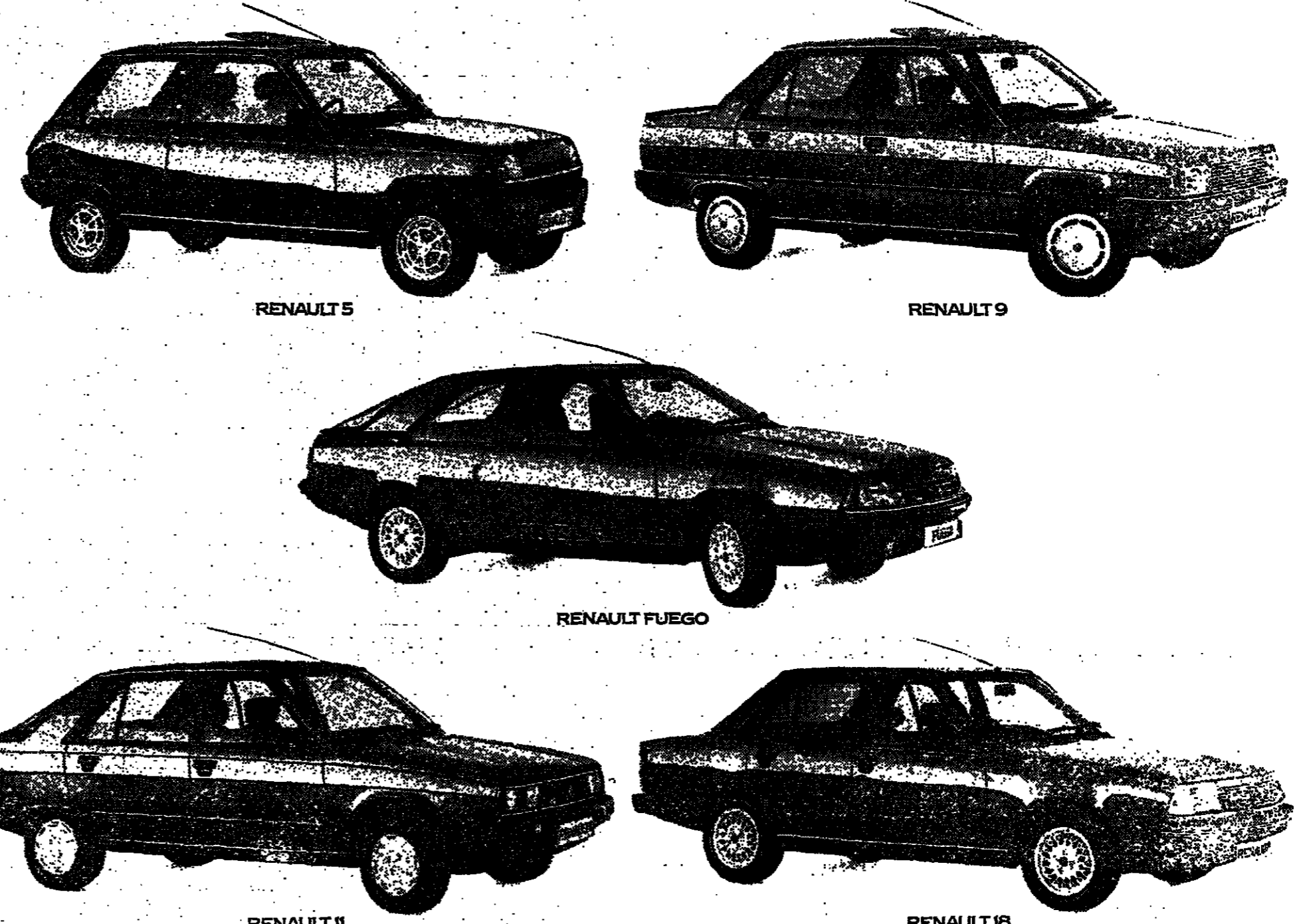
The firm's letter says: "The legal aid office for the area seems to have a policy of refusing to issue a legal aid certificate in a personal injury case until a copy of the police report has been supplied". A report could take two or three months to prepare, a spokesman said yesterday.

Ashby's, a firm of solicitors, in Barnes, west London, claimed earlier that, having paid the £24 fee for reports in one case, it took nearly five months for Scotland Yard to provide the documents.

An apology from the Yard for the inconvenience and delays, explained to the Law Society: "It can frequently take several weeks, sometimes months, to assemble all the evidence, even when the eventual decision is to take no action."

Between 400 and 500 applications for reports are received each week at more than 70 police stations. The Yard is changing the system to try to speed the process.

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Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

Next Tuesday will be an important day in the history of Gibraltar. The siege imposed by Franco in 1969 will finally be lifted, and later in the day the British and Spanish foreign ministers will for the first time formally discuss the issue of sovereignty when they meet in Geneva.

Much has happened since Franco tried to blockade Gibraltar into submission 15 years ago. Spain has become a democracy and is about to join the European Community.

Britain was not exactly threatening to impose a veto on Spanish membership if the siege was not lifted fully. But it would clearly have been a complicating factor if the Spaniards had maintained their restrictions. Even a partial blockade on the territory of a member state by another member would hardly have been an expression of Community spirit.

Some people would say that something else has changed as well: that the Hong Kong settlement has been so widely acclaimed as an act of astute diplomacy that it provides a precedent for Gibraltar, a precedent all the more inviting now that Spain is a democracy.

There is a tendency for those who look on public affairs with the handicap of a tidy mind to lump together Hong Kong, Gibraltar, the Falklands and sometimes even Northern Ireland as well as anomalies which not only offend their sense of order but might be susceptible to broadly the same kind of treatment.

Spanish would like dialogue to start

This is, I believe, dangerously simplistic nonsense. The circumstances of each of these territories are markedly different from all the others.

Gibraltar cannot be compared with Hong Kong because, in that case, Britain was securing the best deal it could for a territory to most of which she has no legal entitlement after 1997. Gibraltar, by contrast, was formally ceded to Britain by the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713 and has a well-established internal democracy.

The Spanish Government would like next Tuesday's meeting to form the start of a process of dialogue that would lead in due course to a transfer of sovereignty. Sir Geoffrey Howe - who will be accompanied in Geneva by Sir Joshua Hassan, the Chief Minister of Gibraltar - can be expected not so much to reject the offer as to deflect that claim.

Britain is under a formal obligation not to transfer sovereignty without the approval of the people of Gibraltar. Under present circumstances there is not the slightest chance of such approval being given, even if the British Government were to ask for it. The only possibility of that changing would be if the Gibraltarians and the Spaniards were to become more accustomed to co-operating with each other.

For totally different reasons that would also be in the best interest of the Gibraltarians. The economy would be expected to benefit, as would that of southern Spain, from a better working relationship. Therefore, it would be wiser from everybody's standpoint to concentrate in the meantime on practical means of increasing co-operation.

If the Spanish Foreign Minister, Señor Fernando Morán, is prepared to go along with that approach, Tuesday's meeting should pass off satisfactorily with agreement to appoint a number of joint committees on such subjects as the economy, air communications, tourism and culture.

There may well be no joint communiqué. But that would not matter. Communiqué often cause more trouble than they are worth in diplomacy because they force one side either to accept or to be seen to be rejecting the propositions of the other.

But the British and Gibraltar negotiators will have no room for manoeuvre on the explosive issue of sovereignty. Sir Joshua would be torn apart in Gibraltar if he made any concessions, and Sir Geoffrey could expect a pretty rough time at home if he were to renege on Britain's promise.

This does not mean that there can never be any transfer of sovereignty. These Gibraltarians who insist that they must be Brixia for ever are failing to consider how attitudes on the Rock may change with the passage of time.

Network of terrorism spreads across Europe

By Caroline Moorehead

On Monday a Nato naval squadron anchored off Lisbon was attacked by mortar bombs; two weeks ago, the Nato support activity building in a Brussels suburb was shaken by a powerful car bomb exploding at its gates. Since mid-December, in West Germany, there have been 60 separate attacks on government and military installations - most of them concerned with Nato.

The bombings suggest an alarming new trend in European terrorism, possibly masterminded by Action Directe in France and the Red Army Faction in West Germany, which on January 15, announced in a joint five-page statement sent to AFP and Reuters that they were setting up a "united, urban-based, politico-military front in Western Europe with Nato as their main target."

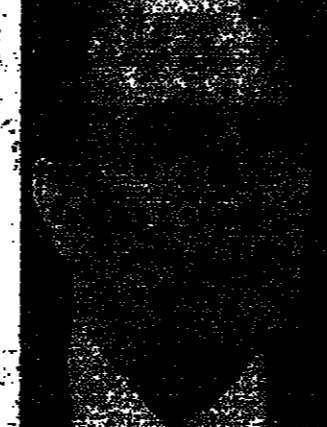
The two groups have declared that they particularly opposed to the first time formal discussion of the issue of sovereignty when they meet in Geneva.

Action Directe has close ties with the Belgian Cellules Communistes Combattantes (CCC) which has claimed responsibility for 13 attacks against Nato targets.

The link between Action Directe, an extreme left-wing, anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist group set up in Paris in 1979, and the Red Army Faction, was spotted by police last December when explosives used in two separate attacks were found to have come from a single stock, stolen in Belgium in June 1984.

Traditionally hitting at buildings rather than people, Action Directe claimed responsibility for its first unprovoked murder when General René Andre was shot dead outside his home in Paris last Friday. West Germany's federal police have said that they believe the faction to have been involved.

If those links are correct, then high-level, well-organized operations would seem to be forming between the various groups, something which the security forces have long feared. Until now, it has been possible for them to derive some reassurance from the essentially



M. Mitterrand: Not a tough enough line

Nationalistic goals of many of the groups, such as ETA in Spain, or the Red Brigades in Italy, whose origins and inspiration, despite known contacts abroad, remain clearly Italian.

With the new attacks on Nato and actions such as last month's bombing of the US Cadiz-Madrid-Saragosa oil pipeline in Spain, such comfort seems less and less possible. There is concern, too, that links may extend beyond Europe:

Nato embassies and offices are under heavy guard following a tip-off that an arrested faction sympathizer had documents on him showing that Shia extremists belonging to Islamic Jihad were planning a series of suicide lorry bombings.

The trigger for some of the new wave of European violence would seem to be the faction, so powerful and murderous in the late 1970s and believed crushed in November 1982 when the gang's three leading members were arrested. Many of the latest attacks across Europe are believed, however, to be linked to the hunger strike of 30 imprisoned terrorists (four have since given up) who began their action on December 4 to press demands that they be grouped together. If any die, several are in a critical condition, the faction has declared that West German generals may be the next targets for assassination.

Both the recent attacks by Belgium's CCC and the Netherlands' Northern Terror Front are said to have been launched out of sympathy for the hunger strikers.

Alongside these signs of cooperation, there is alarming evidence of growth in European terrorism as a whole. Since the beginning of the year in Portugal there have been 11 major attacks, by a group calling itself the Popular Forces of April 25.

In West Germany, the Revolutionary Cells, or KZ, second-level militants whose attacks have been aimed primarily at buildings, are now thought to be stepping up their campaign against the "political pollution" of nuclear power, multinational companies and the defence industry.

Athens, plagued by bombings, arson and murder from its own local extremists of left and right, has become a convenient centre both for Arab groups and for the Armenian terrorists. Athens is rapidly becoming one of the most dangerous European capitals for diplomats.

The most dangerous capital, however, remains Paris, where the Socialist have been increasingly criticized, particularly by Italy and Spain, for not being a tough enough line against international terrorism and whose President Mitterrand has declared that France would not be willing to extradite a suspected terrorist, "if he was willing to renounce his violent

acts in return for asylum in France".

During 1982/3 France saw 111 international terrorist incidents, leaving 45 dead. Alongside Action Directe, which claimed responsibility for 10 bombings last year, the Charles Martel Club (anti-semitic neo fascists), the Bakunin (Gdansk Paris (anti defence industry), Clodo (Committee for the Liquidation of Computers), as well as countless liberation fronts, separatist groups and secret revolutionary armies continue to bomb, assassinate and set fires.

It is now plain that international terrorism is increasing at the rate of about 30 per cent each year, in the hands of some 500 known groups, and that there has been a shift away from Latin America and towards Europe as a main theatre for operations: last year, half of all world incidents took place in European countries.

Terrorism is also becoming bloodier. "Life has no special sacred character", declared the Belgian CCC victims of international terrorism; the rate of deaths is already growing at 13 per cent each year.

Holland hit by gangs of British robbers

The Hague (AP) - The Netherlands is being plagued by British criminal gangs who have committed "dozens" of shop robberies, according to the Dutch central police information service.

In the northern province of Friesland, alone, four to five such gangs were operating and 15 shop robberies were attributed to them in a month, a spokesman said.

He said the tactics were always the same: three of the group diverted the attention of the shopkeeper by asking "difficult" questions in English, while the fourth took the money from the cash register. Members appeared to range in age from 18 to 30, and were believed to be drug addicts.

Ache explained

Nice (Reuters) - Jacqueline Martinez, aged 32 complained to doctors when, after a routine operation to remove a non-malignant growth, the pain would not go away. Two months later, she operated again and removed a long surgical instrument weighing nearly 2lbs which had been left inside her.

Priest tortured

Rome (AP) - The Rev Sergio Sorgone, an Italian Missionary found dead in Madagascar early in January had been tortured and decapitated, the Roman Catholic Fides news service said. It rejected a police report that he died in a motor cycle accident.

Costly error

Manila (Reuters) - A couple who refused to return \$999,000 (about £900,000) they were overpaid by an American bank were each jailed for 20 years here. A relative sent them \$1,000 dollars but the bank remitted it by mistake as \$1 million.

Cheats lose

Nairobi (AFP) - Tanzania has nullified last year's results of primary certificate examinations for 3,400 pupils after the discovery of mass cheating. Tanzania radio reported, in some cases, teachers had assisted pupils during the test.

Mid-air collision

Hanover (Reuters) - A man was killed on the ground and five others were injured after two West German fighter-bombers collided in mid-air and one struck a warehouse near Bremerhaven. One of the pilots is missing.

Ships stranded

Moscow (Reuters) - Dozens of stranded ships are facing the worst ice conditions in the eastern Gulf of Tartary for 25 years. Prasad said, a third icebreaker went to their aid in the Gulf, between the Soviet east coast and Sakhalin Island.

Fares war ban

Wellington (Reuters) - Regulations governing international air fares originating in New Zealand have been abolished. But a discount war would not be tolerated, the Transport Minister, Mr Richard Prebble, said.

Croatian fit

Los Angeles - The accused Croatian war criminal, Andrija Artukovic, is mentally fit to face extradition proceedings, a magistrate ruled here, rejecting a psychiatrist's report that he was mentally incompetent.

Thatcher date

Dr Sergio Ramirez, vice-president of Nicaragua and a leader of the left-wing Sandinista Party, is to meet Mrs Thatcher at the end of next week, during a three-day visit to Britain.

Dhaka changes

Dhaka (Reuters) - President Ershad of Bangladesh relieved five army generals of their key civilian duties as a part of his plan to end martial law and restore democracy.

Painting's found

Brussels (AFP) - Seven paintings by the Anglo-Belgian artist James Ensor, stolen last week, were recovered in a railway luggage locker here. A Spaniard had been arrested.

Mutual perceptions

An old ring to 'new dialogue'

In the last of a three-part series, Richard Owen in Moscow looks at how the superpowers regard each other.

Mr Andrei Gromyko's decision to speak in English rather than through an interpreter when he arrived in Geneva on January 6 was apparently made at the last moment to save time in the Siberian cold of Geneva airport.

None the less it symbolized what he later described as the beginning of dialogue. President Reagan echoed him by talking of the "beginning of a new dialogue."

Both sides are treading carefully at the outset of what could be a long and tortuous path toward superpower rapprochement after bitter mutual hostility.

US officials argue that it was firmness on the part of Washington, and Nato as a whole, which forced the Russians back to the negotiating table. The Kremlin argues that, on the contrary the return to dialogue demonstrates that its policies have borne fruit.

Privately, officials in both capitals agree that the reason does not really matter as long as the arms build-up is again being discussed.

For the Soviet Union, the turning point was not only the realization that the Reagan Administration was absolutely serious about the visionary space defence system announced by Mr Reagan in his "Star Wars" speech of March 1983, but also the inevitability of a second Reagan term.

Some senior Soviet observers confide that the Kremlin is looking even further ahead: what if Mr George Bush were to succeed an ailing Ronald Reagan in two years, run as incumbent in his own right in 1988, and win? Moscow could be facing a Republican presidency for years.

President Chernenko's illness and uncertainties about the Kremlin succession affect Soviet calculations, but do not necessarily undermine long-term strategies.

With poor economic growth rates at home, the Soviet Union needs détente abroad, provided that the United States does not treat it patronizingly but as a superpower of equal status. The Soviet-American Trade Commission may be revived at Cabinet level after a lapse of seven years, and there are to be superpower consultations on the Middle East.

Mr Reagan still regards the Soviet Union as evil and an enemy, one aide explained, but he does not put the two words together in case they seem provocative.

Similarly, he has not pressed for a summit, so as to avoid embarrassing the ailing Chernenko.

But from the Pentagon to the State Department, the Soviet Union is perceived as an aggressive and unprovoked adversary with a long trail of past and present crimes, from Afghanistan to Central

America. Administration hardliners take the even more gloomy view that Moscow is, by its nature, untrustworthy and that arms control agreements are thus not worth the paper they are printed on.

The issue of "non-compliance" rouses passions: What is the point of negotiating a deal with the Russians, officials argue, if they cheat?



Today the administration is to present Congress with a report on Soviet arms control violations.

Neither this nor growing congressional support for Mr Reagan's MX missile programme is likely to please the Soviet Union in the run-up to the new talks, but it is not intended. There is no sentimentality about "the new dialogue."

The Americans feel they were "suckered" by Moscow during the 1970s era of détente. Military charts of the type produced in Moscow to prove that Russia has done no more than respond to American weapons are matched by others in Washington proving that in the 1970s, Moscow had 27 arms programmes to America's four and that some of America's dwindling arsenal is as much as 20 years old, where Russia's growing arsenal of bombers, submarines and missiles is thoroughly modern.

Disputes continue over whether both sides took advantage of existing arms treaties - which allow "modernization" of weapons - by multiplying warheads in their missiles' re-entry vehicles. Mr Max Kampelman, head of the American delegation, is regarded by Moscow as a hawk in such matters, and has been attacked for his proposal of space weapons and ABM defences as an American "shield" against Soviet missiles.

Six Socialist ministers, including the finance minister, Dr Franz Vranitzky, are believed to have remained in the Cabinet only because of the personal authority of Dr Sinowatz.

Before going into a special meeting of the party's Praesidium, several Socialists made it clear that they would support the party today for "reasons of state" rather than from any position of sympathy for Herr Frischenschlager.

Herr Leopold Wagner, the Socialist governor of Carinthia, admitted it would have been best had the Defence Minister immediately resigned.

But Herr Jörg Haider, leader of Herr Frischenschlager's right-wing Liberal Party in Carinthia, reaffirmed his belief yesterday that the minister had greeted "an old Austrian soldier".

Reider was a prisoner of war, not a war criminal, he said: "Who are we in the younger generation of Austria to apportion blame for the events of 40 years ago."

He was Herr Haider who defended Herr Frischenschlager, and not, as reported on January 26, the Governor of Carinthia, Herr Wagner.

ETA chief arrested in French swoop

Bayonne (Reuters) - French police said yesterday that they had uncovered the main base in France of ETA, the outlawed Spanish Basque separatist guerrilla group, and captured its chief, Juan Mari Luena.

Eight people were arrested including Juan Lorenzo Lasa Mikelena, aged 29, named by Spanish police as deputy leader of ETA, and wanted in connection with guerrilla attacks, including the blowing-up of a nuclear power station being built in northern Spain, in which at least 14 people had died.

A French spokesman said police raided the ETA centre, a villa in the village of Auglet, after a high-level meeting in Paris on Tuesday involving the Interior Minister M Pierre Joxe, the Defence Minister, M Charles Hernu and the Prime Minister, M Laurent Fabius.

The issue has long been contentious with Spain excepted by France's policy of granting political refugee status to Spanish Basques considered ETA sympathisers by Madrid.

Diplomats said the latest move by French police tended to confirm Spain's charge that ETA guerrillas operated with impunity from French territory. They accepted, however, that France appeared at last to have agreed to take a tougher line.

Sinowatz holds the line before confidence debate

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

Chancellor Fred Sinowatz of Austria tried to unite his supporters yesterday in preparation for the motion of confidence in Parliament today.

Although Herr Friedhelm Frischenschlager, his Defence Minister, has apologized for greasing the former SS officer, Walter Reder, a convicted war criminal, on his repatriation to Austria, many Socialist Party members still feel the minister should resign.

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Israel denies torture of detainees

Jerusalem - Israel yesterday rejected charges that between 1982 and 1984 torture and inhuman treatment were regularly meted out to Palestinian prisoners at the al-Fara youth detention centre in the occupied West Bank (Christopher Walker writes).

Commenting on allegations presented by Law in the Service of Man, a Palestinian affiliate of the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists, a statement released by the Government press office in Jerusalem said: "Security sources have no intention of commenting on the such of false claims and baseless insinuations originating from hostile organizations who make cynical use of legal organizations to spread their biased opinions."

The Israeli statement, dismissed by the commission as a burst of anger rather than a proper response.

Pope calls for end to debt 'abyss'

Quito (Reuters) - The Pope, denouncing what he called "the intolerable abyss" between rich and poor, said Latin America's debt crisis could be solved only by changes to the international economic system.

Addressing workers in Quito, where protests against government austerity policies erupted in violence earlier this month, the Pope listed the economic woes of Latin America, including a \$300 billion debt burden.

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The Popieluszko murder trial

Warsaw

Sometimes shouting at a sceptical courtroom, the defence lawyer of the secret police Captain Grzegorz Piotrowski yesterday launched an attempt to save his client from the noose, arguing that Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the Solidarity priest, was the victim of manslaughter and not cold-blooded murder.

The court broke into nervous laughter when Mr Janusz Ilatz, claimed that the only man who wanted the priest killed was Piotrowski's superior, Colonel Adam Pietruszka who hoped that the "disappearance" would lead to his promotion as head of the church-monitoring department.

Piotrowski, said the lawyer, had intended only to take the priest to some forest bunkers and interrogate him: "The beating was supposed only to knock the priest unconscious but he proved surprisingly vital in his resistance."

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Russians see deadlock ahead in Vienna talks

Vienna (Reuters) - Continued deadlock was forecast when talks on reducing conventional forces in Europe resumed here yesterday, overshadowed by new talks in Geneva, and the Stockholm security conference.

"There is no way out of the deadlock, we have reached in the foreseeable future," the Warsaw Pact spokesman said. "One could almost envisage us getting into a third decade of talks."

REPORT DENIED: Defence spokesmen in Britain, the United States, Norway, Finland and West Germany all denied a report that a Russian missile which violated Norwegian and Finnish air space on December 28 was shot down by Russian fighters or that it was on a course which would have taken it over Bremen and Hamburg. (Rodney Cowton writes).

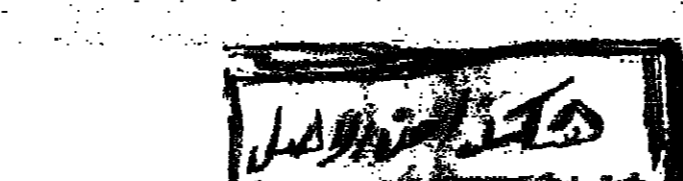
Turkish tremors

Ankara (AP) - Three moderate tremors jolted the western Turkish provinces of Antalya, Isparta and Burdur, damaging houses in Isparta.

386 injured

Pretoria (API) - A commuter train carrying blacks from a segregated township into Pretoria crashed into a stationary freight train, injuring 386

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Europe steps up its efforts to go it alone into space

From John Earle, Rome

Western Europe's aim of sending its own citizens into space under its own facilities, independently of the United States, has come a step nearer after a two-day meeting of 14 countries which ended here yesterday.

Ministers from 13 European countries and Canada endorsed a programme designed to give Europe an independent civilian capacity in space before the end of the century.

The ministers, forming the council of the European Space Agency, said they would "prepare" autonomous European facilities for the support of man in space, for the transport of equipment and crews and for making use of low earth orbits.

Mr Geoffrey Pattie, the British Minister of State for Industry and Information Technology, emphasized the increasing importance the British Government intends giving to the "civilian" use of space. Evidence of this was the decision, announced earlier this week, to set up a British national space centre, probably at Farnborough.

In the past, he admitted, Britain's political commitment to space had not been on a level with that of British industry. But now that was changing. The Government was increasing its expenditure on space programmes.

He said that the ESA already had more satellites in correct orbit than Nasa, the US space agency.

The meeting took note of Britain's HOTOL (horizontal take-off and landing) project which the minister said incorporated exciting new technology and would be the subject of further study.

It also took note of France's decision to develop its manned space programme known as Hermes. France is to keep its partners informed of progress.

But in the nearer future the main impetus will still be on collaboration with the US in the Columbus programme, involving co-operation in the development and utilization of an international space station. The ministers approved this collaboration, but the precise terms have to be negotiated with Nasa.

The ministers endorsed the development of France's most modern launcher, the Ariane 5, which is to be ready by 1995.

After the meeting a communiqué said it had set new directions for "expanding Europe's autonomous capability and competitiveness in all sectors of space activity".



Top table: Mr Papandreu, centre, opening the meeting flanked by President Nyerere (Tanzania) and President Alfonsín (Argentina). Mr Olaf Palme (Sweden) is second from left.

Delhi peace initiative endorsed in Athens

From Mario Modiano Athens

About 50 world personalities, including former prime ministers, anti-nuclear campaigners, intellectuals and poets, met here yesterday to give unanimous endorsement to the call by six national leaders from five continents for a halt to the arms race.

In a declaration which adopts four of the six principles of what is known as the five-continent peace initiative, the Athens meeting urged the nuclear powers to "assume their responsibility towards civilization and the universal right of life" and transfer resources to economic development.

The six leaders - President Alfonsín of Argentina, President de la Madrid of Mexico, President Nyerere of Tanzania, and the Prime Ministers of India, Greece and Sweden - met in Delhi last weekend and agreed on action to press the nuclear leaders from five continents for a halt to the arms race.

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Aid to Mozambique rebels Pretoria accuses Portuguese

From Michael Hornsby Cape Town

Mr Pik Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, yesterday accused European and Arab countries of supporting the Renamo guerrilla movement in Mozambique and thereby jeopardizing the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique.

Mr Botha was careful not to mention names publicly at a press conference here, but he left no doubt that in Pretoria's eyes the main culprits were right-wing political and business circles in Portugal.

He admitted that Renamo activity in Mozambique had increased over the past few months, but insisted that South Africa was abiding by its Nkomati pledge not to aid the rebels.

The latest proposals from Mr Evo Fernandes, Renamo secretary-general, were so preposterous, Mr Botha said, that he had not even bothered to pass them on to President Samora Machel of Mozambique because he would "think I was crazy even to imagine that they could be acceptable".

South Africa has been trying to act as a mediator between Renamo and the Maputo Government, and to establish a cease-fire in Mozambique, without success.

Mr Botha said the two sides had been very close to agreeing on a cease-fire last October 3. But Renamo had sharply backtracked a week or so later after Mr Fernandes received a telephone call from one of the movement's backers in an unnamed country.

Other sources here said the country was Portugal.

Some diplomatic sources here wonder whether Pretoria is not trying to make Portugal a scapegoat for its own failure to control pro-Renamo activity among its own large Portuguese community.

Sihanouk gets Cambodia pledge from Peking

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the anti-Vietnamese resistance in Cambodia, said last night that China had assured him that it would not normalize relations with Vietnam and the Soviet Union until both countries permitted the Cambodian people to be free and independent.

The Chinese had told him that Vietnam had proposed secret negotiations on bilateral ties. The Vietnamese had said they wanted to be good friends again.

According to the prince, China's reply was: "We want to be friends too, but you must allow Cambodia to be independent. You must withdraw, not in six or ten years, but now."

Prince Sihanouk, hinting that he was trapped in the resistance coalition with his old enemies, the Khmer Rouge, said Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader, had warned him that Peking's support would cease if the coalition - the communist Khmer Rouge and non-communist elements - broke up. The Chinese wanted a future Cambodian Government formed from the three groups.

The prince said the coalition could not continue without Chinese backing. Peking had promised to supply much more equipment, including heavy weapons to the resistance, which has been on the defensive against a determined Vietnamese offensive since November.

Earlier, Prince Sihanouk met Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary-General, who had talks with Hanoi this week. The prince said the proposals put to the Secretary-General were "not very helpful".

Meese dominates the Senate stage

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Mr Edwin Meese, plugging not to do again the things he has done already, confronted the Senate Judiciary Committee for the third day yesterday in a mood of ebullience, confidence and apparent assurance that he will be confirmed as the United States Attorney-General.

Mr Meese, a lawyer, is President Reagan's closest political friend. He is White House Counselor, a job of intimacy with the machinations of the highest reaches of Washington politics. The committee is expected to vote soon whether to confirm him as the most powerful law enforcement officer in the country. Barring a sudden turn of fate, he looks home and dry.

For a man plied so ruthlessly in the press, Mr Meese's performance has been impressive. Several senators have pointed out that probably no other presidential nominee for a Cabinet post has been subjected to so much scrutiny of his public, personal and financial life.

He said that he would take on the job without the burden of a single political or personal obligation to anyone. He promised to make declarations of his financial interests beyond the standard requirement. He would bend over backwards to ensure that nothing he did could be misconstrued, or misinterpreted.

Of past actions that have been criticized he admitted: "In the course of four years [in the White House] I have learnt a great deal about how people view things. I have a much higher level of sensitivity of these matters now than I did when I arrived in Washington... so some things, if they occurred in the future, I would do differently, yes."

Mr Meese, aged 53, is not a wealthy man. He had clearly encountered difficulties keeping up with the rich men who make up most of President Reagan's close circle. He has previously argued that his loyalty to Mr Reagan has cost him a great deal of money. He told the committee that he had not violated federal ethics standards at any time in his career.

He was nominated as Attorney-General by President Reagan last year, but Senate confirmation hearings were suspended in March, pending the findings of an independent counsel into suggestions that he had financial dealings with people who subsequently received federal jobs. The implication was that he traded federal jobs for financial gain. The counsel found no reason to recommend prosecution.

Mr Meese has been criticized for not removing himself from a meeting in which his accountant, Mr John McKean, was approved for a seat on the US Postal Board of Governors. Mr Meese conceded under questioning that he perhaps should have made known "all the financial information" about his relationship with Mr McKean.



Mr Meese: Confident of Attorney-General's post

'Riot' halts treason trial for 14

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg

Police were given permission yesterday to use force to take the fingerprints of 14 blacks facing high treason charges after a riot broke when they were led into the dock.

They forced an open-court hearing of the case to be abandoned after jumping onto seats with their backs to the court and joining people in the public gallery shouting "freedom" slogans.

The magistrate, Mr D. J. van der Walt, stayed outside the court while the men were herded back into their cells and then announced that the case would be heard in absentia in another courtroom. When the hearing was reconvened, Mr van der Walt recorded that it had been previously adjourned because "total chaos" had broken out.

The defence lawyer, Miss Priscilla Jana, withdrew from the case saying she had no mandate to appear in the absence of the accused.

Mr A. G. Berry, for the State, said the 14 who are being held in Pretoria Central Prison, had been "uncooperative and obstructive" when police tried to take their fingerprints. The magistrate adjourned the case until February 28 and gave an order empowering the police to use any necessary force to take the men's fingerprints.



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and to Mexico. But do not tell the people in the traffic jam on the M4 to Heathrow. Because there's not one regular scheduled non-stop service from Heathrow to Dallas/Fort Worth. And we do not want Gatwick to become as packed as Heathrow do we?



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Tomorrow

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THE ARTS 2

Benjamin Britten's last composition will be premiered at Aldeburgh this summer. Fiona Maddocks reports

Famous last bars

When Maurice Rostropovich signed a contract to conduct the 1977 season of concerts with the National Symphony Orchestra of Washington, D.C., he asked his two closest friends, Benjamin Britten and Dmitri Shostakovich, to compose new works for the occasion. As both had already written solo pieces for Rostropovich - whom Shostakovich had "introduced" to Britten in 1960 - they agreed at once to "happy" support this parallel career. Within weeks, however, Shostakovich was dead. "Now, Slava," Britten told Rostropovich, "my composition for you must be twice as good, because I write not only for myself but for Dmitri."



Great meet: Rostropovich and Britten (right)

Accounts written of the last months of his life make frequent reference to the cantata. He began it in the summer of 1976, while on holiday in Norway with Sir Peter Pears. He then put it aside to write *Welcome Ode, Op 95*, a short children's piece to mark the Queen's Silver Jubilee. This was his last complete work. By the time he returned to the cantata his health was fading fast. Rostropovich recalls those last days: "Ben showed me nearly twenty pages of music - 118 bars. I waited, and hoped, with such incredible feeling, such incredible enthusiasm, for him to finish this piece for me. But it wasn't to be. Now I am thrilled that we are to let the public hear the last bars of this genius. It is all thanks to Colin Matthews, who has made a full score of Ben's original sketch."

After Britten's death, Matthews decided to continue his orchestration of *Praise We Great Men* and soon completed it. This is the version which the Philharmonic Chorus and Orchestra will give at Aldeburgh. Is it right, though, to call it pure Britten? Rostropovich is in no doubt: "Of course, of course. Britten had such a strong personality, we hear it in the first note. The work is unfinished so we cannot analyze it, but what exists is typical of him. And the subject too, of proud men, embodies Ben's great humanity." But what of the orchestration, completed entirely by someone else? Rostropovich is firm: "Yes, thanks to the talent of Colin Matthews. I make a comparison with a photographer, whose work is developed in the laboratory. Mr Matthews is the laboratory."

Blood Simple (18) Warner West End, Classic Haymarket

The Shooting Party (15) Curzon

A Midsummer Night's Dream (15) Screen on the Hill

Teachers (15) Plaza

Blood Simple - the striking creation of two beady-eyed Americans by Joel and Ethan Coen - kicks off with a bleary-eyed narrator offering doleful words about predictability. "Nothing comes with a guarantee," he says, "something can all go wrong." We then see a couple at the wheel of a rain-soaked car, in the depths of an affair and a taut conversation about a .38 calibre gun. At once the alert spectator should spot the film's pretences: this is the self-conscious child of the film noir thriller of the Forties, in which sleazy characters fall helplessly into spider webs of deceit and murder and the gleeful workings of fate. Yet *Blood Simple* pursues a refreshingly individual path through this fashionable Hollywood genre, mixing a glacial visual style with sly humour; the plot, too, pulls its own surprises. The narrator soon emerges as an unscrupulous private detective hired by Marty, wealthy Texan owner of the Neon Boots saloon, to hound, and finally kill, his restless wife Abby and her bartender lover (the couple in the car). Nothing, indeed, comes with a guarantee. Instead of shooting the lovers, the detective deludes Marty with a doctored photograph showing their punctured, bloody bodies. He then pockets his fee and shoots Marty, aiming to incriminate Abby. Inevitably the plan misfires: the bartender, rather than the police, discovers Marty, who turns out to be far less dead than he looks, despite profuse bleeding. There is more - far more - to the plot; but it is safer, and easier, to dwell on the idiosyncratic treatment. Joel Coen, directing his first feature, takes enormous delight in playing spatial games with characters and props - emphasizing the overhead fans spinning through the sweaty Texan air, the light filtering through the blinds at Marty's luxurious house, or the bare walls and floors of the lovers' apartment. Every shot - glossily photographed, despite a low budget - seems as pre-ordained as in Hitchcock (another clear reference point for the script). Yet enough room is found in Coen's clever compositions for warming off-beat humour, particularly in the babble of Marty's saloon (one customer asks if discounts exist for alcoholics). Coen also allows scope for powerful performances. M. Emmet Walsh, an unsung character actor busy in films since *Alice's Restaurant*, invests the private eye with a seedy grandiloquence that reverberates long after his brief appearances. Newcomer Frances McDormand cuts an equally memorable, vengeful figure as Abby, staring wide-eyed at the bodies and blood like a mute Fey Wray. At the end of the day, *Blood Simple* smacks too much of an exercise, but it is one undertaken with ingenuity and verve. From American genre cinema at its most stylized, we pass to an archetypal British offer-

Cinema Sleazy characters in the spider's web



M. Emmet Walsh snared in his own trap in Blood Simple; and Lindsay Kemp as Puck in Midsummer Night's Dream

ing. Alan Bridges' *The Shooting Party* bears all the hallmarks of our pedigree product. The source material is an esteemed novel (by Isabel Colegate), the action unfolds in a resonant, bygone setting (an Edwardian country house during one October weekend in 1913), while the *dramatis personae* include two Sirs, two Lords, three Ladies, one Hungarian Count, and one pet duck. Only one Sir appears in the cast (John Gielgud, trussed up in yet another eccentric cameo), though his colleagues are undoubtedly illustrious; they include Edward Fox, Dorothy Tutin, Robert Hardy, Cheryl Campbell, and the late James Mason. With expected skill they run the expected gamut, manoeuvring their characters' little affairs and rivalries through country house bric-a-brac, misty landscapes and inviolate social rituals (dining, charades, billiards, shooting pheasant). Throughout there are symbolic hints of the upcoming social cataclysm, clearly signposted by the director: after one of the party's livelier members mentions that an age and a civilisation might be passing, Bridges dutifully cuts to the log fire crackling like artillery. The film is also peppered with actual gunfire, though the only bodies falling are those of the estate's game; the end credits, however, look forward solemnly to the casualties of World War One. *The Shooting Party* sits so snugly inside its cinema (and television) tradition that it is almost possible to imagine the film sight unseen. The cast list alone summons crisp images of Edward Fox in his Clive Brook mood, adorning a billiard table with furrowed brows and clipped remarks; of James Mason lordly over his lines like a wise, sardonic seigneur (exactly the character he is asked to play); of Cheryl Campbell being flighty in feathers. Luckily, the film does exceed expectations at certain points. There is the vivid delineation of Judi Bowker's flowering, forbidden romance; the droll scene where Mason soothes Gielgud's animal rights protester by admiring his broadsheet ("I know a very good printer in Dorking," Sir John proclaims); Mason only joined the film when Paul Scofield broke his leg after an accident on the first day of shooting; the part of Sir Randolph Nettleby, lord of the manor, hardly stretches him, but he is always eloquent and subtle. Celestino Coronado's film of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as performed by the Lindsay

Kemp company, follows an even more venerable tradition - begun almost 90 years ago when Herbert Beerbohm Tree strode down to the Thames embankment and filmed a spurious snatch of *King John*. Since then many strange films have been perpetrated in Shakespeare's name, and the Kemp *Dream*, filmed in Spain, belongs with the strangest. As With Kemp's other stage productions, words matter less than mime, music and atmosphere. Characters - dressed in Kemp's customary flamboyant, unisex style - enact doctored highlights of Shakespeare's play in a bizarre environment of cobwebs, romantic foliage and rose petals; if the smelles existed, there would also be incense. The production's budget limitations constantly poke through, but as Shakespeare films go, this is admirably provocative and short (78 minutes). Teachers, a tale of High School hi-jinks, veers between styles like a drunk-driven car on ice. It begins as ranting satire in

the Paddy Chayevsky vein, with illiterate pupils receiving diplomas and genial mental patient teaching history. It ends as pure Hollywood corn, with haggard teacher Nick Nolte battling to recover his lost ideals. In between, good character players show their mettle, but W. R. McKinney's script asks audiences to swallow far too much. The bland director is Arthur Hiller, recruited in the Sixties from television. Geoff Brown

BREATHAKING... A FILM BY VINCENT WARD VIGIL NOW ICA CINEMA

LONDON ARTS CHOICE JACK GRABTREE'S

Looking at it again after nearly eight years, I'm beginning to wonder about it - but as a purely private, long-term project. It would have to be approached from a different angle, more my own ideas. Britten didn't leave enough indication of his plans; just a few ideas jotted down on the text. Perhaps he would have wanted the opening fanfare to return at the end. I can't guess much more. Britten's last eight minutes of music may be too slight to change our understanding of him as a composer, but both Matthews and Rostropovich agree that to leave them unheard would be unthinkable. Rostropovich says: "For a composer of genius, each note is precious to us. Every bar. I'm very proud to have this in my festival."

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The Shooting Party NOW SHOWING CURZON MAYFAIR

Svetlana - embraced by Stalin's ghost

Last year Stalin's daughter fled back to Russia saying she was disillusioned with the West. But what drove her home and is she happy in the fatherland?

Nearly 18 years ago Joseph Stalin's only daughter, Svetlana Alliluyeva, defected to the West. The child of one of modern history's most brutal tyrants, a man accused of killing more people than Adolf Hitler, repudiated her father and communism. It was more than a propaganda coup for the West: it was a symbolic event in the moral imagination of millions of people. Svetlana had escaped with her humanity intact.

Last October Svetlana returned to the Soviet Union, taking her 13-year-old American-born daughter Olga with her. Once again her action could be seen as symbolic - signifying, perhaps, some basic failure of Western values. She said she had not known "one single day" of freedom in the West and that she had returned to the Soviet Union to rejoin the two children she had left behind in 1967.

What had gone wrong for Svetlana in the West? Why did she return to the country she had fled in abhorrence?

Svetlana was an often charming but restless, unhappy and quarrelsome woman. Her feverish enthusiasm for people and places could quickly turn into disappointment and recrimination, as evidenced by a trail

of broken friendships and angry words. In retrospect, it seems clear that her ultimate quarrel was with her father, whom she fatefully resembled. The story of Svetlana's life is the chronicle of her losing battle with the spectre of her father.

In 1967, when Svetlana arrived in America following her defection during a visit to India, little of her inner conflict was visible. A handsome, vibrant woman of 41, with crisp coppery curls, ruddy cheeks, shy blue eyes and a winning smile, she exuded sweetness and candour. She seemed pleased by her fame and the one and a half million dollars she earned from her first book of memoirs, *Twenty Letters to a Friend*.

Well-wishers left the house she rented in Princeton, New Jersey, filled with flowers. Fan letters arrived, academic and society people lionized her. Amid such warm attention, she did not appear to worry unduly about her children back in Moscow. Joseph, 22, and Yekaterina (Katya), 17, were

already grown up, she explained; their life will not be changed. Svetlana's life certainly had. In her last years in Moscow, she had been no princess of the Kremlin. After the 20th Communist Party Congress in 1956, when Nikita Khrushchev denounced Stalin's crimes, Svetlana had lived through a dark decade bereft of status, and short of privileges. Although she found friends, she was widely shunned in Moscow as the child of a despot whose very name "aroused fear and hatred in millions of men", as she later put it. In 1957 she favourably shed her father's name in favour of her mother's Alliluyeva.

In America the fame and fortune brought to the surface some of the lordly ways Svetlana had learned in her 26 years in the Kremlin. An elderly black houseman working for a family that had rented their Princeton home to Svetlana was devastated by her imperious manner. After he cautioned her about her treatment of some precious objects in the house, she rounded on him: "How dare you! You're only a servant!"

In the Soviet Union Svetlana's love life had been marred by tragedy and strife. At 16, she had chosen as her first lover 40-year-old film maker Alexei Kapler. Stalin rewarded Kapler's ardour by sending him to the Gulag for 10 years. There followed two marriages, two divorces and a common law union with Brahesh Singh, an Indian communist 17 years her senior. When he died in 1966 Svetlana was permitted to take his ashes to India, on which journey she impulsively decided to defect.

In Princeton, she fell in love with Louis Fischer, a writer on Soviet affairs, who died in 1970. An inveterate womanizer 30 years her senior, Fischer caused Svetlana much grief and word of her outbursts against him soon got around town. Her break-up with Fischer in 1968 was followed by a period of painful loneliness.

She fell into a bizarre misadventure beginning with a series of fan letters from a stranger. The author was the widow of architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Mrs Wright, who was in her 70s, constantly urged Svetlana to visit her at Taliesin West, near Scottsdale, Arizona. Svetlana accepted the invitation in March 1970, but could scarcely have imagined that the architect's widow perceived she was possibly the reincarnation of her own daughter who had died in a car accident in 1946.

Mrs Wright, a disciple of the Russian-born mystic Georgi Gurdjieff, was spellbound by some coincidences between the living and the dead. Her



Her father was tender with her in her childhood, bestowing loud moist kisses. Little sparrow, he called her

Svetlana with Olga and in the arms of Stalin

daughter, by an earlier marriage in Russia, was also called Svetlana and had been born in Georgia, Stalin's home region. Mrs Wright believed that Stalin's daughter might marry the first Svetlana's widower, William Wesley Peters, Taliesin West's chief architect. Svetlana went along with Mrs Wright's wishes and less than three weeks after her arrival in Arizona, she and Peters were married.

Svetlana's happiness was short-lived. The egalitarian atmosphere at Taliesin West was not to her liking. It reminded her of communism. After 20 months of marriage, Svetlana stormed out and during the next decade tried to make a fresh start in California and New Jersey, only to rebuff the welcome she found.

When she left her husband, she took with her a new daughter, Olga Margareda Peters, born May 21, 1971.

Svetlana, who would be granted American citizenship only in 1978, felt alone in a strange country and seemed particularly vulnerable to the stresses of later motherhood. Having gained custody of Olga by the terms of her 1973 divorce from Peters, she refused to allow the child to visit her father at Taliesin West. "Olga is the centre of my existence", Svetlana often said, but all too often Svetlana's ungovernable temper got in the way of her loving intentions. Wherever mother and daughter lived, Svetlana frequently struck Olga.

Olga's upbringing was almost a case study of how parents can re-enact with their own off-

spring what they suffered as children. Svetlana's mother, Nadezhda Alliluyeva, whom Stalin married in 1919, had been a harsh disciplinarian. When Svetlana damaged a tablecloth with scissors, her mother hit her repeatedly. Nadezhda committed suicide when Svetlana was six, leaving her daughter's discipline to Stalin.

Svetlana recalls that her father was tender with her in her early childhood, bestowing "loud moist kisses" and calling her "little sparrow". As she reached adolescence, however, he became incensed by her independent spirit.

Svetlana complained constantly about what she considered the lack of discipline in American schools and moved to Britain in 1982 to put Olga into a strict boarding school. Arriving too late in the year to enroll

she had taken place in her. Once she had acknowledged Stalin's personal responsibility for the death of millions, now she called him a prisoner of communist ideology. Her new book contained hardly any criticism of her father. She probably felt she had betrayed him. "My father would have shot me for what I have done", she often said.

Meanwhile, a partial rehabilitation of Stalin was under way in the Soviet Union as the country prepared to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the 1945 victory over Nazi Germany. The Soviet authorities evidently decided it was time for Stalin's daughter to come home. They apparently decided to use her son Joseph, Stalin's namesake, as their intermediary.

First, just before Christmas 1983, a phone call came from Joseph in Moscow. Svetlana had scarcely heard from either of her children in the Soviet Union for 17 years. Joseph, now 38 and a physician and Katya, 33 and a scientist, had been forbidden to communicate with their mother since her defection. The presents she sent them had come back marked refused. After Christmas 1983, though, Joseph called her regularly and she could phone him.

There was little to indicate then that she might be tempted to return to the Soviet Union. Her loathing for the regime was undiminished. In 1984 she published in India a sharply anti-Soviet volume of memoirs titled *The Faraway Music*.

Last August Donald Denman, a retired professor from Cambridge, invited her to visit the House of Commons to see British democracy at work. As they strolled through Westminster, Denman offered to introduce Svetlana to some Members of Parliament. A look of horror came over her face. "I don't want to meet any Socialists", she said, "only Tories!"

But one significant change

had taken place in her. Once she had acknowledged Stalin's personal responsibility for the death of millions, now she called him a prisoner of communist ideology. Her new book contained hardly any criticism of her father. She probably felt she had betrayed him. "My father would have shot me for what I have done", she often said.

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A recent shot of Svetlana and her daughter in Moscow

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Pain-free childbirth: how safe is it?

By Nicholas Timmins

On July 28 last year Mrs Oluo nni Ikumelo, a 29-year-old Nigerian mother, went into labour with her third child at Newham Maternity Hospital in London's East End, a hospital with a fine reputation for childbirth.

Ninety minutes later she was given an epidural block for pain relief. Eight hours after that, her heart stopped beating. She was resuscitated, but remained in a coma. Thirty-six hours later her baby died.

Mrs Ikumelo has been in a coma for the six-months since. Her distressed husband describes her as "just like a cabbage, someone on whom the doctors have given up hope". An inquest last week recorded a verdict of "misadventure" on the baby.

The tragedy has brought to the fore nagging worries among anaesthetists about the use of epidural blocks in childbirth. It has also focussed attention again on cuts in health service spending and the acute shortage of neo-natal intensive care facilities for very ill babies. It is a case worth looking at.

Mrs Ikumelo's case, though

being born without the need for general anaesthetics. Newham Health Authority reacted commendably to Mrs Ikumelo's tragedy. An outside specialist, Dr Michael Rosen, a consultant anaesthetist at University Hospital Wales was called in to investigate. He found that despite what happened there had been "no failure by current standards of practice" by doctors and midwives at the hospital.

Mr Kevin O'Reilly, solicitor to the Ikumelo family says: "This tragedy still happened. It does therefore make one doubt the adequacy of current practice."

It is a point that Dr Rosen takes. "Current standards are not always high enough", he says. The risks of epidurals, Dr Rosen insists, are low. In his own hospital 10,000 have been done over the years with no deaths and no serious long-term complications. Perhaps 300,000 epidurals have been carried out in all. The Mrs Ikumelos, Carol Browns and Julie Cleggs are the very rare exceptions. "I doubt if we are talking about more than one or two serious complications in 100,000 cases."

The problem is that he cannot say for sure. As epidurals have spread from the

teaching centres to general use there has been no central monitoring of epidural disasters. Specialist anaesthetists like Dr Rosen, and Professor James Payne, Professor of Anaesthetics at London University, say they know of such cases from "anecdotal reports."

Dr John Wall of the Medical Defence Union which covers 60 per cent of Britain's doctors said "I doubt if we have settled more than 15 or 20 claims involving epidurals in 20 years. We don't deal with more than two or three a year." The Medical Protection Society, which covers 30 per cent of doctors says it has settled "no more than a dozen cases over the past five years."

The precise size of the problem, however, needs defining not just to restore public confidence but to help prevent future tragedies. And there is a clear model, in something called the "Confidential Inquiry into Maternal Deaths".

This investigates all deaths of mothers in childbirth and publishes the findings to help doctors avoid repeat occurrences. Over the 30 years it has run, it has contributed significantly to the fall in maternal deaths

from 54 per 100,000 in 1952 to 6 per 100,000 in 1982. Epidural disasters that result in death within a year of the accident will be picked up by that inquiry. But the disasters that leave a woman paralysed, or in a coma will not.

Professor Payne, a member of Newham Health Authority which is responsible for Newham Hospital, said: "There is now a strong case for some general confidential inquiry to establish what has gone wrong in these cases, how frequently they are, and what lessons can be learned."

The danger, is that individual accidents are investigated locally, but there is no clear system for making the findings and the lessons learned known nationally. "People are concerned about this, and they are right to be", he said.

Dr Rosen agrees. "A reporting system for these disasters would be very valuable."

There is a clear case for the Department of Health to initiate something nationally and quickly.

Dr Rosen warns however that there are financial implications. First, such a reporting system would have to be financed.

Second, improvements in current practice will cost money. At his own hospital anaesthetists are present in the delivery room throughout an epidural, with resuscitation equipment at hand. "The problem in many hospitals", he says, "is that there just aren't the facilities for people to be there all the time."

The economic argument cuts two ways, however. Carol Brown's damages for a wrecked life set a new record for patient damages at £414,563 - a large part of which had to be met by the local health authority. Mrs Ikumelo, deep in coma, has blocked a bed at Whips Cross Hospital at a cost to the NHS so far in the region of £17,000 - and nobody knows when she may die or recover. Mrs Clegg died quickly. "There is a simple economic argument for investing in preventing such tragedies," Dr Rosen said.

Which brings us to Mrs Ikumelo's baby. Suffering fetal distress almost throughout the birth, it was put in Newham's special care baby unit. But no intensive care cot, which the child in retrospect clearly needed, was found for it until the morning after the birth. The little girl died before she was transferred.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Beg or barrow

Ariel Sharon, the former Israeli defence minister, paid a secret visit to London this week - according to Jewish sources...

Brinks-Met

Commander Frank Cater, who as head of the Flying Squad has been dashing around the country arresting people in connection with the great Brinks-Mat bullion robbery in 1983, retires tonight after 32 years with the Met...

American import

MacGregor is a modest man. Despite months of warring with Arthur Scargill, he still professes ignorance of the British class system.

Donald Elliott, Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall, has banned the use of a 2.8 litre Ford XR4i sports saloon, one of three bought before Christmas for unmarked use.

Last detail?

Top officials at the MoD and the Royal Navy are said to be shocked at Lord Lewin's disclosure, reported here, of apparently classified details about towed arrays on Britain's submarines.

The Cornwall Beekeepers' Association is putting forward a motion to a national meeting of apiarists in March pressing for the construction of thousands of lead-lined hives to ensure bees survive any nuclear holocaust.

Sign-off

Of the 70 MPs who submitted their works for the recent members book exhibition at Westminster only 19 are among the 190 who have signed the early day motion against VAT on books.



I got home early and found my wife watching the Open University

Second hand

CND persists in its claim to be the subject of sinister surveillance. Only now, it says, the spooks have thrown subtlety to the wind. Thursday has apparently become the day a CND check CND mail.

Five steps to staying aloft

by Adam Thomson

For more than 20 years the British civil aviation industry has been crying out for government action on future airports policy. Today the issue is fundamental to the future of our entire air transport industry, of which Britain is a world leader.

Wednesday's Commons vote, in which 70 Tory backbenchers joined Labour in opposing further development of Stansted, must not be the pretext for further indecision.

It is too late to develop a green field site to handle the increasing traffic. Stansted should be developed - as recommended by Graham Eyre, chairman of the public inquiry - while simultaneously expanding Heathrow and Gatwick to their full potential and encouraging regional airport development.

Addressing the Commons on Wednesday, Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Secretary, said the Government accepted that regional airport development did not obviate the need for further development in the south-east.

In accepting this, Mr Ridley must take account of the Government's desire for substantially greater competition between airlines, particularly between British Caledonian and British Airways. By implication, that means more competition between Heathrow and Gatwick.

Stansted must not be considered in isolation. And when the Government comes to consider the development of regional airports it must take into account the number of airlines wishing to use them. As a number of MPs said on Wednesday, airport policy should match airline policy.

In the circumstances, we at British Caledonian believe that Mr Ridley's ultimate decision should be based on the following five points:

1. Mr Ridley could take other steps, reducing the arbitrary limits of 275,000 flights per year from Heathrow and removing from Heathrow services for foreign airlines which have reciprocal British operation. One such American airline takes up to 6,500 slots each year.

Perhaps too much is made of curbing mental issues. I agree that badly planned airports can be a blight on the countryside, but Gatwick - the fourth busiest international airport in the world in terms of passengers handled - has had little detrimental effect on the surrounding countryside. It is a prime example of the way in which encroachment of airports on the countryside can be contained by providing adequate high-capacity surface links and imaginative environmental planning. The same can easily be done at Stansted.

2. A third terminal should be constructed at Heathrow. A fourth terminal should be constructed at Gatwick. New networks of services at regional airports should be given every possible encouragement.

3. The only possible plan that would avoid the encroachment of airports on the countryside would be to develop London's position as a world No 1 international aviation hub. This would require the removal of Heathrow and Gatwick.

4. A third terminal should be constructed at Heathrow. A fourth terminal should be constructed at Gatwick. New networks of services at regional airports should be given every possible encouragement.

Adam Thomson is chairman and chief executive of British Caledonian Airways.

Tom Bower on the charmed life of the Angel of Death

Mengele, the ever elusive quarry

On the fortieth anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz extermination camp, a number of Josef Mengele's tormented victims are gathered in Israel this weekend to "try" him and to demand one final attempt by western governments to compel his surrender by Paraguay's dictator, Alfredo Stroessner.

Mengele was last positively identified in the mid-1960s, yet ever since the legend that the infamous doctor is still living in a remote jungle hideaway by the Rio Parana on the Paraguayan-Argentine border has been sustained. It is a phantom fuelled by the film The Boys from Brazil which featured the indefatigable Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal relentlessly, and finally successfully, pursuing his quarry. The reality is very different.

In the last 10 years Wiesenthal has variously and successively claimed Mengele's imminent arrest, his suicide and sightings while on holiday in Greece, Italy, Bermuda, and even Torre Molinos in Spain. Other "definite" reports have placed him in practically every South American country, living either in poverty or as a millionaire. When the "sightings" have exhausted their credibility, Mengele has either been murdered or is writing his memoirs.

Compounding the confusion, Stroessner announced in 1979 that Mengele's citizenship had lapsed because he had been absent from the country for more than two years. Simply, but not convincingly, he had refuted the allegation that his country was Mengele's refuge.

Hampering the pursuit is the lack of any photograph of Mengele taken since 1937. Film allegedly showing him near his river refuge in 1966 is very suspect, and an apparently unique photograph, handed to German police as "inadvertently" destroyed in 1980. So the monster has become a myth.

Mengele was born on March 16, 1911, in Gueznburg in Bavaria, the son of a wealthy manufacturer of agricultural machinery. Even today, the towering sign of the community's largest employer, "Karl Mengele u. Soehne", towers above Mengelestrasse. The townspeople are understandably reluctant to discuss their absent son.

Within months of qualifying as a doctor in 1936, Mengele joined the Nazi party and was employed at the Institute of Racial Biology in Frankfurt, a citadel of Nazi theory devoted to the perpetuation of Aryan purity and superiority. Commissioned as an SS officer, he was posted at the outbreak of war to the "Viking" Waffen SS regiment. Wounded in late 1942, he arrived at Auschwitz in May 1943 as a camp doctor, intent not on healing the sick but on intensifying their misery and organizing mass murder.

Numerous eyewitness accounts have made Mengele's daily routine and crimes relatively easy to reconstruct. Standing on the ramp at the end of the camp's single railway line, he surveyed the terrified but subdued cargo of the latest train file past his gaze. With a flick of his thumb the slightest jerk of his head, the immediate fate of thousands of men, women and children was decided. Left, direct to the gas chambers, right to the work camp and probable death.

Between the covers of The Vegan lurks a world turned upside down, where advertisers stress aspects of their products which, anywhere else, would be seen as reasons not to buy. "Beanmilk: milk that's never even seen a cow" is to vegans, who deplore exploitation of animals and eat nothing derived from them, a highly desirable commodity. The same goes for "totally synthetic walking boots" and even "vegan" because the veggie considers that wool and leather are suitable clothing only for sheep and cows. It's a hard task keeping track of commercial developments which might render some previously acceptable product non-vegan, and the Vegan Society's quarterly magazine does sterling work keeping readers informed. The regular shopping columns announces, for example, that "Sainsbury's cannot guarantee that the empanadas used in their baking tins are vegan". A lengthy article on vitamin D reports that the veggie method of getting the vitamin is by using the vitamin in the form of a now produced...



The only authenticated picture of Mengele (top left), taken in 1937 when he was 26. Others, such as that top right, have been circulated since he fled to South America, but all are suspect. Above, Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal, who is said to have been within 20 minutes of capturing Mengele in Argentina.

Daily, he arrived at the camp hospital to decide which of the filthy skeletons lying on the boards should be dispatched to the gas chambers, who should be injected with air or petrol, or who should be selected for his perverted and scientifically worthless experiments.

Some of his guinea-pigs were injected with typhus or contaminated water, others suffered bone marrow transplants or castration. But his most notorious "research" was aimed at fulfilling his passionate nationalist and Nazi ideals by inventing a method of massively multiplying the number of pure Germans. Posing on twins among the new arrivals, he subjected them to a series of "tests" to discover whether Aryan mothers could be fertilized to produce twins rather than a single child. Inevitably, his human "experiments" were seriously deformed and, with few exceptions, murdered. Many were thrown still alive into the camp's crematoria, some by Mengele himself.

Fleeing the advancing Soviet army, he returned to Gueznburg, although the post-war Adenauer government at first turned a blind eye to the Jewish hunters living in West Germany. Mengele realized there were many Auschwitz survivors who could identify him. He left for Argentina - in October 1949 with a Red Cross passport using the name Helmut Gregor, or in 1951, with a German passport bearing his own name. The exact circumstances are not clear.

By 1956 he was confident of his safety. Registering in his own name with Buenos Aires police, he gave up his job in a pharmaceutical factory. He divorced his first wife and married Maria Estemann in Uruguay. There he settled down as a doctor but he soon moved back to Argentina, acting as the Latin America sales representative of his family's business.

In Frankfurt, meanwhile, a West German prosecutor, Fritz Bauer, was singlehandedly investigating Nazi crimes. Among the names mentioned repeatedly were Adolf Eichmann and Mengele. Bauer had established in 1953 that Mengele had fled but only discovered six years later that he was living in Buenos Aires as a naturalized Argentinian. The Bonn government applied for Mengele's extradition. The request was rejected in 1959. By then Mengele had fled to San Carlos de Bariloche, an Argentine spa town where the "German doctor" became well known.

Frustrated that his forthcoming trial of former SS officers from Auschwitz would start without Mengele, Bauer tried a last desperate move in early 1960. Wiesenthal was given Eichmann's exact address in Argentina. Wiesenthal's subsequent kidnapping operation in May 1960 was intended also to ensure Mengele's Reliable "sources" suggest that Mengele, alerted by friends in the capital, jumped out of a back window in his pyjamas and fled only 20 minutes before the Israelis arrived.

Mengele travelled via Brazil to Paraguay, a welcoming haven ruled by the sons of nineteenth century German immigrants. As a sensible precaution he hid in the previous November, became a Paraguayan citizen. Germans in Asuncion have freely admitted they welcomed Mengele as a friend, an old comrade and a keen bridge partner. Living comfortably for the next two years, his friends sent by his brother in Calcutta, he was again "tracked down" by West German police. Alleged, he disappeared into a militarily protected zone in the Paraguayan jungle.

In the capital, Paraguayan police vehemently denied his very existence. In 1963, Adenauer - under pressure to prove that postwar Germany was expunging its Nazi past - allegedly offered Stroessner eight million marks for Mengele's extradition. The German ambassador, who conveyed the offer, was thrown out of the presidential residence.

Sitting forlornly in his Frankfurt office, Eberhard Klein, the state prosecutor now investigating Nazi war crimes, recently admitted that there was little chance of arrest warrant 22 Ga 71/59, issued on June 5, 1959, ever being served. "I'm sure Mengele is alive, somewhere, but that's all. Klein's certainty stems from an agreement with the Mengele family lawyer, an old acquaintance. Although the lawyer refused to reveal where Mengele is, he has promised to tell Klein when he hears from the family that Mengele has died. Then the file can be closed.

Officially, the hunt is off. German police have ruled out any undercover operation to monitor his son, who is "living in the hope of discovering a lucrative contract. Unofficially, the search never stops. Thousands of Jews methodically scrutinise each and every elderly German. This week, their vendetta took its new path. The American army admitted that it has a file on Mengele which it has refused to disclose on grounds of national security. With memories of Klaus Barbie's extradition from Bolivia still fresh, Mengele's surviving victims believe that their plea in Israel this weekend for justice can no longer be ignored.

Tom Bower is the author of The Butcher of Lyons (Methuen).

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The nemesis visited upon this scheme is instructive. What went wrong was not the substantial argument itself. It was perfectly defensible to argue that Mrs Thatcher deserved to be honoured by her old university as soon as she became prime minister - and possibly as soon as she became the first woman leader of the Opposition. What ought to have been obvious to the council, however, was the madness of putting the matter to a vote at this moment.

Leaving aside the question of whether it is right to abandon the principle of consensus over the honoree's suitability, a condition which was bound to be unfulfilled at the moment of the vote - a very controversial political career - the council's main error was in not doing the necessary homework. Even if the possibility of losing the vote is a possibility, the enormity of the embarrassment such a loss would inflict on the university should have made some early, extensive preliminary investigations obligatory.

The truth is that the council, consisting of the necessary extent of heads of houses, was out of touch with its constituency. It was ambushed by the extent and depth of anti-Thatcher sentiment - not simply (as has been alleged in face-saving speculations) among the medical/scientific fraternity but

world figures. In any form of selection, particularly for the most lasting honour available in this world, you are always going to be criticized for sins of omission and commission. It was a mistake, for example, to leave out Randolph Churchill, J. R. Ackerley, and Guy Burgess from the last volume. Inclusion in the DNB is not an end-term prize or reward for good behaviour. It is primarily a reference book. People who include the names that people are most likely to want to look up at the end of time, or at any rate the end of about 750 biographies each decade, provided that contributors stick to the number of words they are allocated. Contributors being contributors, this means that there is space for somewhat fewer than 750 biographies each decade.

In fact the DNB casts its net agreeably wide for its big fish. It included Tony Hancock and Billy Eccleshall, as the Pantheon of the without. Some risk of polemical facts right and consistently presented are impressive and wearied certificates to Southport, and marriage and death certificates which people know where. When your subject was born in the Federated Malay States, for example, merely establishing a date or a second name can take several years.

Who wants to be a millionaire? Nobody of any taste. About the only reason for being rich, apart from National Theatre once a week, would be to buy the DNB, overhaul alphabetical run, and look after it. It is one of the national institutions at which the British are so good.

Since you say that money is no object, I think that we should also buy the Encyclopaedia Britannica (which The Times once owned, since it has gone badly downhill since), the Oxford Classical Texts, the India County History, The Annual Register and, since everybody wants to be doing it, The Spectator. Until that happy day, the DNB reference book we have a model of fairness, accuracy, succinctness and entertainment.

Does Oxford speak for the nation?

David Watt

Let us begin with the apparently trivial, though admittedly amazing case of Oxford University's refusal to give an honorary degree to the Prime Minister. How on earth did the university's "cabinet", the Hebdomadal Council, which put forward the proposal and which comprises some of the most intelligent men in the land, contrive to make themselves and the university look silly?

The short answer is: "By hopeless mistiming". The idea of giving an honorary degree to Oxford's most celebrated alumna has been going round the university, to my knowledge, for at least five years. The first time it was seriously considered - in, I think, 1980 - a majority of the council decided against it on the grounds that it was bound to be controversial. On two subsequent occasions the vice-chancellor, Sir Geoffrey Warnock, advised his colleagues to avoid splitting the university, and although there was mounting agitation from Conservative heads of houses such as Lord Blake, these arguments prevailed.

This time the Prime Minister's backers seem to have convinced the council (a) that it was becoming a real scandal after six years that Mrs Thatcher had not had the reward of every other Oxford prime minister, (b) that the university would take the "mature" view that an honorary degree expresses admiration for "achievement" and does not confer approval of the honoree's policies and (c) that in any case the hard opposition, being (as they believed) the usual "Trots from the sociology departments", could be steam-rollered. In effect, therefore, consensus politics was to be abandoned, in the best Thatcherite fashion, and principle forced upon a minority.

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within the last year, or perhaps in the last six months, a worm of real worry has begun to gnaw at this complacency - and not simply because Mr Lawson, some of the cast covetous eyes. The unease has more to do with the general political and economic environment - the decline of the pound, the perpetual unemployment, the low investment, the stories of shrinking market shares abroad, and above all, endless cuts in, and rows about, public expenditure which appear at last to threaten the general quality of British life. Some surprising people are beginning to ask themselves whether the government is not in danger of throwing the baby out with the bathwater - and without being able to prevent or assuage the symptoms of national decline.

That is why the universities come in as symbols of quality and not just as providers of employment to middle-class intellectuals - and incidentally why the arguments for public expenditure on infrastructure (rather than tax cuts) have made a remarkable appeal to a far wider audience than the Keynesian left.

These reflections bring us very sharply back to the present political situation. For Mr Kinnoch is right; the miners' strike has indeed distracted attention. What he did not add was that it is the attention of Mrs Thatcher's natural middle-class constituency that has been most distracted, and it is they whose concerns are going to be recalled when there is no more Mr Scargill upon whom to concentrate their discontents. What has surprised the Hebdomadal Council may prove an even more unpleasant shock to the Government.

Philip Howard

Let wordlies join the worthies

The question this morning, girls and boys, is: "What runs from Abbade to Zealand in a hundred years, and is about to take another stride forward?" Do not waffle. Do not write on both sides of the paper at once. Have you finished? Good. The answer of course is the Dictionary of National Biography. Abbade is Jacques Fresco, 1847-1927. Zealand is Dundas the Imperial Proconsul, 1876-1961, and the last name in the 1961-70 Supplement of the DNB.

Today we celebrate the centenary of the publication of the first volume of this national institution. By a miracle unique in the history of reference books George Smith, the founder, stuck to his original undertaking of quarterly publication to complete it with the sixty-third fascicle in 1900. Since then we have advanced by decennial supplements, and impatiently await the 1971-1980 volume.

The twentieth-century supplements differ in arrangement and quality from the main work. On the one hand they lack the long eye of history, and the documentary evidence that often takes years to dig out. On the other hand, they are written by biographers who often knew their subjects, and who were usually in the same business. The noble army of biographers assembled for the centenary lecture in the Sheldonian last night personified the happy knack of Lord Blake, the present editor of the DNB, at selecting stylish, and unexpected, and just the right people for his team.

It is, of course, possible to criticize the DNB: though it is bad form in the centenary year. There is room for history than chaps and chappesses, for example, ideas. But biography is the most attractive kind of history, and it is the kind at which our generation particularly excels. History is made not just by the famous, the great and the good, but by the great, the good and the women who make no mistake of themselves in the world. Worthies are the representatives of their generations, but they do not represent the whole truth.

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The nemesis visited upon this scheme is instructive. What went wrong was not the substantial argument itself. It was perfectly defensible to argue that Mrs Thatcher deserved to be honoured by her old university as soon as she became prime minister - and possibly as soon as she became the first woman leader of the Opposition. What ought to have been obvious to the council, however, was the madness of putting the matter to a vote at this moment.

Leaving aside the question of whether it is right to abandon the principle of consensus over the honoree's suitability, a condition which was bound to be unfulfilled at the moment of the vote - a very controversial political career - the council's main error was in not doing the necessary homework. Even if the possibility of losing the vote is a possibility, the enormity of the embarrassment such a loss would inflict on the university should have made some early, extensive preliminary investigations obligatory.

The truth is that the council, consisting of the necessary extent of heads of houses, was out of touch with its constituency. It was ambushed by the extent and depth of anti-Thatcher sentiment - not simply (as has been alleged in face-saving speculations) among the medical/scientific fraternity but

world figures. In any form of selection, particularly for the most lasting honour available in this world, you are always going to be criticized for sins of omission and commission. It was a mistake, for example, to leave out Randolph Churchill, J. R. Ackerley, and Guy Burgess from the last volume. Inclusion in the DNB is not an end-term prize or reward for good behaviour. It is primarily a reference book. People who include the names that people are most likely to want to look up at the end of time, or at any rate the end of about 750 biographies each decade, provided that contributors stick to the number of words they are allocated. Contributors being contributors, this means that there is space for somewhat fewer than 750 biographies each decade.

In fact the DNB casts its net agreeably wide for its big fish. It included Tony Hancock and Billy Eccleshall, as the Pantheon of the without. Some risk of polemical facts right and consistently presented are impressive and wearied certificates to Southport, and marriage and death certificates which people know where. When your subject was born in the Federated Malay States, for example, merely establishing a date or a second name can take several years.

Who wants to be a millionaire? Nobody of any taste. About the only reason for being rich, apart from National Theatre once a week, would be to buy the DNB, overhaul alphabetical run, and look after it. It is one of the national institutions at which the British are so good.

Since you say that money is no object, I think that we should also buy the Encyclopaedia Britannica (which The Times once owned, since it has gone badly downhill since), the Oxford Classical Texts, the India County History, The Annual Register and, since everybody wants to be doing it, The Spectator. Until that happy day, the DNB reference book we have a model of fairness, accuracy, succinctness and entertainment.

Veg and two veg

Small Worlds: an occasional series on unlikely magazines

lanolin, that is, from sheep's wool. Readers who have inquired about vegan perming lotions are informed that there are none, but the Society is able to offer advice about veggie cosmetics. And by way of encouragement, there is the article by a vegan marathon runner: "Within a month of becoming vegan I noticed that my limbs and joints felt different... it was as if something had been 'glogged up' the world, and was now removed."

A letter from a concerned reader with "vegan sympathies" points out that wearers of synthetic boots made in Malaysia might be innocent of animal exploitation but guilty of human exploitation, in view of the miserable working conditions in the rubber industry there. "I would be interested to know how the veggie balance between the two animal exploitation..."

To help with research into hormones and breast disease: "As vegetarians are obviously aware, their diet is associated with a diminished risk of developing many diseases... small amounts of blood would be taken at certain intervals during the Saturday afternoon and night (while the volunteer is asleep)... Another article reports the publication of a book on The Natural Athlete and announces that 'vegan athletes would seem to have been one step ahead of the rest for quite some time'."

Turning to the classified section one finds advertisements for such things as The Synthesizer, a synthesizer of useful and actual information on sprouts, raw foods and nutrition, for portable folding tables for sculptor-student, furniture and for Vegetarian Match-makers, a "direct, responsible,

postal introduction service exclusively for unattached adult vegetarians/vegans... dreams could become reality for you too by requesting details today... from an address in London N22.

Every issue of the magazine carries an announcement to the effect that the Society has an obligation to remind readers of the importance of vitamin B12 - especially for women of childbearing age. As the vitamin does not occur naturally in a vegan diet it is necessary to take a supplement or eat foods to which it has been added by the manufacturer. But no supplements will help the one whose concerned organs put them on the vegan diet. Under the heading 'Important Notice we are told that 'Recent research' (and presumably large numbers of scientific papers) 'has shown that a semi-vegetarian diet is essential for cats. You can lead a cat to beanmilk, but you can't make it drink.'

Rosemary Burton The Vegan Society 27 Highland Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE FIGHT FOR GAS

As the putative deadline for decision passes, the British Cabinet is still agonizing over whether it should agree a £20 billion contract for British Gas to buy natural gas supplies from Norway's Sleipner field in the North Sea. The casual observer, the most extraordinary element in this agonizing is that a Cabinet that trusts markets should be so closely concerned in what is essentially a commercial contract to replace dwindling supplies from the largely Norwegian Frigg field from the early 1970s onwards. The British Cabinet will essentially decide whether a Norwegian gas field should be developed. The contract is admittedly large, accounting for a quarter of our gas supplies. But the Government, while concerned, does not expect to take such a role in international oil contracts or the sourcing policies of multinational chemical or motor companies.

Profit aims of water boards

From the Minister for Housing and Construction
Sir, your leader, "Taxman or waterman?" (January 31), refers to a letter which I sent to MPs on Thames water charges. You have not told your readers what my letter says, and I would like them to know. The assets of Thames were valued on March 31, 1984, at £4,425 million at current prices. The operating profit was £34 million. Counting in some profit from earlier years, the authority achieved a rate of return of 1.19 per cent. By any standards this is low.

Oxford University's rebuff to the Prime Minister

From Sir Ian Percival, QC, MP for Southport (Conservative)
Sir, Can there ever have been such reason to feel ashamed of one of our great institutions?
The world knows that Margaret Thatcher is one of the very finest people who has ever passed through any university. Oxford could and should be justly and immensely proud to honour her as their own. And all credit to those of its leaders who wished to do so in the traditional way.

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 1 1965
Sir Winston Churchill died at his home, 28 Hyde Park Gate, London, on January 24 1965. He was born on November 30 1874, the elder son of Lord Randolph Churchill, the third son of the 7th Duke of Marlborough. He entered the House of Commons in 1900 and his last visit there was on July 27 1964. The funeral followed his lying-in-state in Westminster Hall. (The final act took place at the village, Bladon, near Eilshelm Palace, where the man who had charged with the 31st Lancers at Omdurman, and in his old age had armed his country with the hydrogen bomb, was buried beside his parents.)

THE NATION'S FAREWELL

The Churchillian era moved slowly to its close in the streets of London as the people bade farewell to the great man.
The world was also there to mourn on Saturday, standing on the cold kerbs or watching abroad in countless thousands of little bright screens, as the cortege went from Westminster, past the former Naval Paymaster's old office at the Admiralty, and on to the waiting kings and queens and representatives of over a hundred nations at St Paul's...
At 9.40, just before the procession was due to move off the leading contingent "reversed arms" and the movement was carried out all down Whitehall. The white helmets of the Marines lining the route were tilted as their wearers sunk their heads over their rifle-butts. The bickering and the chaffing in the crowds ceased.
The beat of the single drum, which was to haunt us all day, first made itself heard and, as the whole procession began to move forward in slow time, the strains of the Dead March were borne thickly up Whitehall on the cold morning air, to be taken up in turn by band after band.

A MOVING TAPESTRY OF HISTORY

And now down this ancient thoroughfare of England, could be seen centuries of British history woven into a living, moving tapestry. The Earl Marshal of England, and the insignia of medieval chivalry, were the first to march into London with Monk or clattered through Whitehall behind the second Charles; those that fought in Marlborough's wars, defended Hougoumont, and charged at Balaklava; impressive and apart, the Royal Navy, symbol of the great days of Britain's greatest days of power; the Battle of Britain pilots, who flew above London in Churchill's zenith, and the men of the civil defence services who battled beneath when there was "fire over England". In sombre ripples, the colours changed in the robes of the Territorials to the grey of the Foot Guards' greatcoats, to the deep blue of the Navy and the spark of scarlet from the cloaks of the Household Cavalry.

Fuel for the elderly

From Mr I. MacKay
Sir, Mr Peter Thompson's letter in your issue of January 22 I am afraid suffers from the all too common fault of generalization when he states (paragraph 4) "In the Greater London area... it is almost impossible to get solid smokeless fuel."

Kerb-crawling

From Professor Bryan Thwaites
Sir, What about the poor lost traveller if Miss Janet Fook's Bill is enacted?
Searching for an unfamiliar destination in a strange town, my general sense of direction having finally failed me, I start kerb-crawling with the deliberate intent of questioning a lady who looks knowledgeable about the area (men in my experience, are pretty useless by comparison).

Anagrammarians?

From Mr John Coe
Sir, In one of the questions in the 11-plus examination held in this area yesterday candidates were asked to interpret a sentence in which the letters of one word had been jumbled.
Does this show commendable insight on the part of the local education authority - who obviously expect the successful candidates to be future readers of The Times? Or is it another example of the advantage possessed by those who have regular access to our newspaper?

BUTTER NOT GUNS

Graphic television films of the suffering in Ethiopia last autumn horrified people in this country and drew a response which was generous and sincere. Britain alone has given more than £29m in aid during the past two years, nearly half of it in the past few months, as part of a relief operation whose humanitarian necessity no one could seriously query. There is a painful contrast between Europe which has too much food and parts of Africa which have too little - and the wish to help to reduce this gap is shared and unequivocal. But is it even that simple in the Horn of Africa, that terrible horn of plenty, where every issue is clouded by politics?

Insolvency Bill

From Mr A. I. F. Goldman
Sir, As a former member of Sir Kenneth Cork's committee I read with great interest the letter (January 28) from the Director General of the Institute of Directors. It is a matter of regret that amongst the many hundreds of organisations and individuals who gave written and oral evidence to that committee the Institute of Directors maintained a deafening silence but the plain fact is that Sir John Hoskyns is right with many of the criticisms which he makes of the present Bill.

Year of Peace

From the Director of the United Nations Association
Sir, We were interested and somewhat surprised to see a letter in the Times (January 23) suggesting that, since 1985 has not been designated as a "Year" it might be used as a Year for the Middle Aged. Nineteen eighty-six has, of course, been designated by the United Nations as International Year of Peace.

Wines of the Languedoc

From Mrs Lavinia Gibbs-Smith
Sir, I must take John P. Harris to task over a detail or two in his article in The Times (January 17). While it cannot be denied that there is a lot of undrinkable wine produced by some Caves Coopératives in the Languedoc (mostly bought by the Government and turned into industrial alcohol) it must be firmly stated that there are some very good wines produced, too.

Famine in Ethiopia

From the Reverend Timothy Russ
Sir, The Director General of the Save the Children Fund says (January 23) "The logical stages for the long-term development of Ethiopia are first to develop the agriculture and the infrastructure, secondly to develop health care services..."

Future of art colleges

From Councillor Neil Fletcher
Sir, The drawback of producing a pioneering plan is that it tends to be criticized in terms of discredited traditional solutions, when in fact it is precisely these pitfalls that are being avoided.

EEC postage

From Mr Keith Jeffery
Sir, Ian Murray's report from Brussels (January 23) prompts the question why, when citizens of EEC countries or the Continent have long been able to send letters to each other at internal postage rates, those of us who live in the United Kingdom continue to be denied this small but symbolically significant advantage of EEC membership.

'Impropaganda'

From Mr Alan Greengross and Professor David Smith
Sir, We are amazed at Mrs Anne Sofer's extraordinary statement (January 28) that she is one of only two members of the Greater London Council who have consistently voted against any expenditure on advertising in the "Save the GLC" campaign and the related campaign against education cuts.

Impropaganda

From Mr Alan Greengross (Leader of Opposition, GLC)
DAVID SMITH (Leader of Opposition, ILEA)
Greater London Council, Members' Lobby, The County Hall, SE1, January 29

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COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 31: The Prince of Wales arrived at Bath Central Station in the Royal Train this morning. His Royal Highness, Duke of Cornwall, subsequently visited Bath College of Higher Education...

Latest wills

Majorie Lady Oaksey, of Malmesbury, Wiltshire, widow of Lord Oaksey, left estate valued at £37,350 net. Mr Gerard William Mackworth-Young, of Fisherton de la Mere, Wiltshire, chairman of Morgan Grenfell, merchant bankers, left estate valued at £417,004 net...

Luncheons

Lady Mayoress of Westminster The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher were guests of honour at a luncheon given by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster at City Hall on Wednesday. Anglo Jordanian Society Mr Michael Hoelstine, MP, was the guest of honour at a luncheon of the Anglo Jordanian Society held at the Travellers Club...

Lightmongers' Company

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the partners of Lawrence Graham gave a reception Wednesday evening at 6 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, to mark the bicentenary of the firm's move to its present premises at New Square during the evening...

Receptions

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Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. C. P. Mallus and Miss C. M. Harrington The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr John Mallus, of Kensington, Kent, and the late Mrs H. J. Mallus, and Claire, younger daughter of General Sir Charles and Lady Harrington, of Riverhead Court, London, SW6. Mr J. A. N. Banks and Miss C. L. E. Park The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Mr and Mrs J. R. Banks, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, and Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Park, of Blingley, Surrey. Mr D. G. W. Beaumont and Miss H. J. Miller The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs E. G. Beaumont, of New Malden, Surrey, and Helena, daughter of Mr H. J. Miller, Wimbledon. Mr R. H. N. Bowen and Miss K. J. Stevenson The engagement is announced between Rodricus Huw, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Bowen, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, and Jacqueline Karen Campion, eldest daughter of Mr William Stevenson, of Lower Hartwell, Buckinghamshire, and Mrs Jeannette Richards, of Hampton, Middlesex. Mr T. Chant and Miss A. Robertson The engagement is announced between Tony Chant, of Woking, Surrey, and Alison, daughter of Dr and Mrs Alan Robertson, of Haslemere, Surrey. Mr N. L. Churchill and Miss D. M. Lacey The engagement is announced between Nicholas Lovell, step-son of Mrs Audrey Churchill, of Bickley, Kent, and Diane Mary, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs C. D. Lacey, of Bosham, Sussex. Mr R. T. H. Edwards and Miss G. R. Rees The engagement is announced between Ronald, only son of Mrs M. Edwards, and the late Mr W. E. Edwards, of Lee, south London, and Gillian, only daughter of Mr T. M. Rees and the late Mrs G. R. Rees, of Swansea, South Wales. Mr S. J. Ford and Miss K. J. Tossell The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs D. Ford, of Windsor, Berkshire, and Kerry, eldest daughter of Group Captain and Mrs J. H. Tossell, of Harrogate, Yorkshire. Mr M. J. Havelock and Miss J. M. Clark The engagement is announced between Martin, second son of Mr and Mrs B. J. R. Havelock, of Cheam, Surrey, and Joanna, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs K. G. Clark, of Dorchester, Dorset. Mr A. J. R. Macpherson and Miss A. M. Bray The engagement is announced between Andrew James Randolph, elder son of Mr Colin Macpherson, of Marty Worthy, Hampshire, and Mrs Bernard Stavi, of Brent House, North Warrborough, Hampshire, and Amelia Mary, younger daughter of Mr Michael Bray, DSC, of Somerset, Bermuda, and Mrs Victoria Bray, of Lovwood, Sussex.

Dinner

Actuaries' Company Mr A. G. Hall, President of the Actuaries' Company, presided at a dinner held last night at Vintner's Hall, Mr R. N. Quarano and Mr L. J. Martin, Court Assistants, also spoke. The other guests included Mr Michael R. G. W. Bray, Mr R. E. Roden and Miss F. Woolley. The engagement is announced between Kim Francis, eldest son of Mrs M. Roden, of Melbourne, Australia, and Frances, daughter of the late Mr A. C. Woolley and Mrs F. E. Woolley, of Woodford, Leeds. Mr R. W. Street and Miss E. S. Thompson The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of Mr and Mrs G. W. M. Street, of Berwick St James, Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Eleanor Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. M. Thompson, of Coggeshall, Essex. Mr M. Worth and Miss H. Spangin The engagement is announced between Marc, younger son of Mr and Mrs Ernest Worth, of Edwalton Lodge, Edwalton, Nottingham, and Hilda, elder daughter of Councilor Michael Spangin, OBE, and Mrs Spangin, of Mapperley, Park, Nottingham. Mr G. T. Zajick and Miss D. J. Griffiths The engagement is announced between George Thomas Zajick, of Amphil, Bedfordshire, and Diane Jane Griffiths, of Woodstock, Oxfordshire.

Supper

Royal Institute of International Affairs Lord Richardson of Duntisbourne and Mr John Rissman were hosts at a supper during the evening at Chatham House yesterday at which the guest speaker was Mr Paul Channon, Minister for Trade. The other guests included Mr Michael R. G. W. Bray, Mr R. E. Roden and Miss F. Woolley. The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Mr and Mrs G. W. M. Street, of Berwick St James, Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Eleanor Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. M. Thompson, of Coggeshall, Essex. Mr M. Worth and Miss H. Spangin The engagement is announced between Marc, younger son of Mr and Mrs Ernest Worth, of Edwalton Lodge, Edwalton, Nottingham, and Hilda, elder daughter of Councilor Michael Spangin, OBE, and Mrs Spangin, of Mapperley, Park, Nottingham. Mr G. T. Zajick and Miss D. J. Griffiths The engagement is announced between George Thomas Zajick, of Amphil, Bedfordshire, and Diane Jane Griffiths, of Woodstock, Oxfordshire.

Middle Temple

The following have been elected Masters of the Bench of the Middle Temple: Mr A. D. Rawley, QC; Mr M. S. Rich, QC; Mr T. S. G. Baker, QC.

Birthdays today

Sir Kenneth Bond, 65; Major Stanley Coxey, 75; Vis Admiral Sir Norman Dalton, 81; Professor Sir Sam Edwards, 87; Mr E. Evans, 60; Mr Robert Gittings, 74; Mr Leonard Gribble, 77; Sir Douglas Hall, 76; Sir Gordon Hobday, 69; Professor Douglas Johnson, 69; Lord Johnston, 78; Sir Maurice Laing, 67; Sir Jack Lyons, 69; Sir Stanley Matthews, 70; Lord Mountbatten, 82; Sir John Nott, 53; Professor Mark Richmond, 54; Mrs Maurice Spark, 67; Sir Peter Tapsell, MP, 55; Miss Renata Tchakli, 63.

Miss K. E. Bird

Thanksgiving services for the life of Miss K. E. Bird, co-founder of Benenden School, will be held in London and Benenden. The service at Benenden Church, former school site, local celebration at Benenden, Monday, February 18, 1985, at 2.30pm. The service in London, at which Benenden School seniors are especially invited, will be at St Martin-in-the-Fields on Thursday, March 7, 1985, at 8.00pm.

Latest appointments

Mr Robin McLennan to be Ambassador to the Philippines, in succession to Mr M. H. Morgan, who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service. Mr Justice Mustill to be a Lord Justice of Appeal in the place of Lord Justice Stephenson. Mr Ralph Allwood, Director of Music in Uppingham School, to be Professor and Director of Music at Eton College.

Science report

Hunt for vaccine to attack parasitic worm

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor. Descriptions of the illness, schistosomiasis, which is caused by a parasitic worm, can be traced back to 2000 BC in Egypt. Today, it is the cause of illness in up to 300 million people in Africa, the Middle East, Central and South America, China, the Philippines and Malaysia. Once the parasite, called a schistosome, is established in its human host, the person is defenceless. Although it does not multiply in its human host, it can live for 20 to 30 years. Eggs are produced in the body, and they migrate to the intestines and are excreted. Treatment with drugs is difficult and expensive but it can be effective. However, reinfection cannot be prevented. In principle, the condition could be eradicated by adequate sanitation and education. The eggs of the parasite hatch in the water and people are infected when the parasite burrows into the skin. It is then carried by the blood supply to an organ such as the bladder or liver. The illness has become the subject for a new line of research which has been started by applying the latest ideas of genetic manipulation to molecular immunology. The ultimate goal is to devise a vaccine against the disease. Before that can happen the scientists have to discover how the schistosome manages to evade its host's immune system. Progress in unravelling that mechanism which protects the parasite is reported in Science, the publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.



Mrs Angela Norris, wife of Mr Percy Norris, the deputy high commissioner in Bombay who was assassinated last November, is seen with her children, Mr Martin Norris and Mrs Madeleine Norris (Photograph: Dick Miller).

Academy displays a healthy profit

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent. The Royal Academy reported a remarkable turnaround in its financial fortunes yesterday, converting a £265,000 deficit into a £85,000 profit during a year when most arts bodies were experiencing severe financial difficulties. The academy, which receives no state funds, also announced that the Queen is to give regular donations, though the sum involved has not been disclosed. As the academy's patron, the Queen holds a formal role in its constitution and has made a donation to its appeal fund. She also owns the world's largest private art collection.

Memorial service for shot envoy

The Prime Minister was represented by Mr Charles Powell in a memorial service for Mr Percy Norris held in the Chapel of the Order of the British Empire, St Paul's Cathedral, yesterday. The Dean of St Paul's officiated, assisted by Canon Peter Ball, Provost of the Cathedral, and the Rev. Michael Beck. Mr Martin Norris, son, and Sir Antony Aitken, Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and Lady Howe were present. The service was presided over by the Rev. Canon Peter Ball, assisted by Mr George Footley. Mr. Among others present were...

THE RIGHT REV MARK HODSON

The Right Rev Mark Hodson was born on January 23 at the age of 77. For sixteen years he was Rector of Poplar, where he earned a considerable reputation as a trainer of curates, and subsequently Bishop of Hereford for twelve years. Mark Albin Hodson was born on December 29 1907. After reading English at University College, London (of which college he was elected a fellow in 1924), he was trained for the ministry at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, the son of St Dunstan's, Stepney. Four years later, moved to St Nicholas, Perivale, where the faithful worshipped in a tent. In the unpropitious month of September, 1940, he returned to East London to become at the age of 32 Rector of the great dockland parish of Poplar. He scored the parish through the arduous and perilous years of the war. All Saints was severely damaged and several neighbouring churches destroyed. He remained in Poplar until 1956, developing his talent for training curates; he had two dozen in that time. He knew exactly how much rope to give each one, when to be encouraging and comforting and when to be demanding and directive. He also had a genius for friendship with the young, many of whom became staunch Christians but some were of a kind whom one would not expect a conventional clergyman to know and love. The South Poplar Youth (SPY) Club influenced a large number of young East Londoners and the parish pantomime was almost as important as the annual passion play. He served his episcopal curacy as Bishop of Taunton, living in the delectable rectory at Dinder, near Wells. In 1959 he married Susan, Grace Lister and their many friends were much blessed by this engaging and enlightening partnership. In 1961 he became Bishop of Hereford, and such was his rich humanity, rooted in a strong discipline of prayer, that he made a most effective rural typical selflessness to allow his successor time to get into the saddle before the diocese's celebration of its 13th century in 1976. Since 1974 he had been an Assistant Bishop of London.

BETTY JOEL

She used a range of luxurious, contrasting woods, exploiting them for decorative purposes, and the firm won many contracts to decorate libraries, board rooms, shops and hotels, including those of the Savoy Colonial Secretary, and where she later met her husband, David Joel, a naval officer. They returned to live in England and together set up a furniture-making firm in South Haying, near Portsmouth, with a showroom in London. They employed yacht fitters to make simple, functional furniture in teak and oak to Betty Joel's own designs, and by the late 1920s she had established a distinctive style, making use of simple, unadorned curved edges which, she said, echoed "the feminine form", abolishing all unnecessary mouldings and projections and introducing an innovative recessed drawer handle. Although sometimes condemned at the time for the luxuriousness of her designs, Betty Joel's true ideal was to create comfortable, dust-free and easy-to-maintain interiors which nevertheless set a high standard of elegance. She retired from business in 1937; after her divorce from David Joel she resumed her maiden name and preferred to forget her successful career as an interior designer.

Law Report February I 1985 Queen's Bench Division

Rates Act report properly laid before Commons only

Regina v Secretary of State for the Environment, Ex Parte Leicestershire City Council, Before Mr Justice Woolf [Judgment delivered January 24] The Rate Support Grant Report for 1983/84 was properly laid before Parliament within the meaning of section 4(1) of the Rates Act 1984 even though it was laid before the House of Commons and not before the House of Lords. Mr Justice Woolf so held in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an application by Leicestershire City Council for judicial review of a decision of the Secretary of State for the Environment to lay before the House of Commons a draft order under section 4(5) specifying the maximum rate to be prescribed to the council. Section 4(1) of the 1984 Act provides: "As soon as practicable after the Rate Support Grant Report for any financial year had been laid before Parliament the secretary of state shall serve on each designated authority a notice stating the maximum which he proposes to prescribe under section 4 above for that year." By that authority for that year. Mr Konrad Schumann, QC and Mr G. N. N. Huskinson, QC and Mr Roger Ter Haar, the secretary of state. The question was whether the application for judicial review involved questions as to the validity of the manner in which the secretary of state was seeking to exercise his "rate-capping" powers under the Rates Act 1984. The points raised were both technical. Although the application was brought by Leicestershire City Council, 17 other rating authorities, in respect of which the secretary of state was considering exercising his rate-capping powers were affected. It was submitted that the Rate Support Grant Report referred to in section 4(1) had not yet been laid before the House of Lords and therefore had not yet been laid before Parliament as required and therefore the secretary of state had no power to serve the notice referred to in that subsection. If the report was not required to be laid before the House of Lords, it was submitted that since it was laid before the House of Commons on December 20, 1984 but the notice was given on December 11, the secretary of state was giving notice before the report was laid before the House of Commons. His Lordship considered sections 1(1), 2(1), 3(1), 4 and 5(1) and (2) of the 1984 Act. It was submitted on behalf of the secretary of state that the report was a creature of section 4 of the Local Government Finance and Loans Act 1980. Under that Act the report was only required to be laid before the House of Commons. The question whether there had been a failure to lay the report before the House of Commons was considered in another part of the 1984 Act. The House of Commons alone, they occurred where there was an express requirement for a resolution of the House of Commons. That position had to be contrasted with section 4(1) where there had merely been stated a time limit when the secretary of state was required to serve a notice and the commencement of the time limit was when the report was laid. Although his Lordship regarded it as surprising that the draftman had used the word "Parliament" in section 4(1), he had come to the conclusion that that was a situation where the context otherwise required, and although the word "Parliament" was used, what was meant was that the report should be laid before the House of Commons as required by the 1980 Act. The report was laid in substitution of a report previously laid on December 11, 1984. Two printing errors were discovered in an annex. A corrected report was laid on December 20. The errors in no way affected the calculation of the rate support grant to the council or any other authority which could be concerned. A report had been laid before the notice was served. That report had been replaced by another report, which was different in limited aspects, which in no way affected the council. The question whether there had been a failure to lay the report before the House of Commons was considered in another part of the 1984 Act. The House of Commons alone, they occurred where there was an express requirement for a resolution of the House of Commons. That position had to be contrasted with section 4(1) where there had merely been stated a time limit when the secretary of state was required to serve a notice and the commencement of the time limit was when the report was laid. 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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Judgement ahead for bold Mr Morton

No-one has ever questioned Alastair Morton's nerve or his boldness. Both characteristics are in play in Guinness Peat's conditional agreement to buy United Kingdom Provident Institution's stake in Britannia Arrow Holdings (BAH), the retail financial services relic, much restored, of Slater, Walker. The timing of the deal is good for BAH, has lost wind from its sails: Stuart Goldsmith, one of the co-pilots, has left temporarily for office space at Gartmore; and speculation about a bid, with the Gartmore-Exco on several rumouring lips, is running moderately strong. UKPI has reasonably said that if a bid is made before March 8 it will not hand over its 22.8 per cent interest (25.2 on conversion of loan stock) to Guinness Peat.

So far no bidder has shown his hand: the BAH price yesterday was up a modest 3p at 102p. It would be premature, however, to discount either the determination of BAH, where Sir Geoffrey Rippon, Michael Newman and Tony Solomons are a formidable trip when roused. Tony Solomons, who heads Singer & Friedlander, the BAH merchant bank of not dissimilar size to GP's Guinness Mahon, is especially astute at the takeover game.

Singer & Friedlander, acquired a year ago, the new factor in the equation since BAH, then in the role of prospective bidder, had a series of meetings with Guinness Peat. The discomfort BAH is now feeling arises partly from the reversal of roles, partly from UKPI's advertising its preference for GP paper over its BAH's shares, partly from awareness that a community of interest between GP with an instant 22.8 per cent of the equity and London and Manchester with 8 per cent can determine BAH's future ownership. The most recent recruit to the GP board of course is John Tomson, a deputy chairman of L and M.

So much for the sideshow. The main event meanwhile continues to unfold. Mr Morton is now embarked on the second year of his three-year plan to reshape Guinness Peat more in his own image. His detractors, of whom there are many, now concede that he has cleaned up the balance sheet, adding, with a little lack of grace, the forced injection of finance from Barclays Bank, he could hardly fail. Moreover, whatever the merits of the rival factions, he has undoubtedly distanced Guinness Peat from the influence of Lord Kissin, founder and president.

Lord Kissin's shareholding - it would fall apparently to less than 8 per cent if the agreement with UKPI is implemented - has been heavily diluted.

Thirdly, Mr Morton has proved a ruthless despatcher of opponents, and even former friends like Mark Hoffman, from the boardroom albeit at great cost to the limited-Guinness Peat treasury. With the recent resignations of Albert Frost and Richard Fenbells as part of the integration of Guinness Mahon with the rest of the group, Mr Morton and his chosen chairman, the lame former mandarin, Lord Croham, are now in command. The only other force is Geoffrey Knight, who presides over the independent fiefdom of Fenchurch Insurance whose profits have sustained GP through its darkest hours.

Mr Morton has now got the freedom and the power he wanted. He has defined his corporate objectives, though he has not yet advanced far towards them, and he has created his internal structures. He says that he will have to work hard to make his 700,000 share options (at 54p) really worthwhile. He denies that his real ambition is to return to the public sector as head of a major nationalized industry. From here on in he will be judged by genuine achievements in developing a business, that no longer deserves the adjective "ailing". Artful public relations will no longer serve his purpose.

American muscle in the Dunlop bid

BTR finally issued its formal offer document to Dunlop shareholders yesterday setting out why they should accept the £33 million bid for the ailing group in which they have had the misfortune to be investors. The document has all the colourful vocabulary which is expected these days in contested bids. Dunlop shares have "little intrinsic value", it says, and there are dim prospects for profits and dividends.

In fact, BTR's document adds little to what was previously known about the terms. These remain unchanged, valuing

Dunlop at around 22p under BTR's two-for-59 share offer underwritten by a 20p cash alternative.

The controversy is really about which share price is the most appropriate to assess the bid. BTR insists on using 14p, the price at which new shares would be issued under the proposed reconstruction. Dunlop refers to the market price of 36½p.

The market therefore seems to be saying that BTR should improve its offer. The presence of Mr Ivan Bosky, the US risk arbitrator who is in London at the moment, ominously suggests that he too expects a little more, if not from BTR then from somebody else.

At £33 million, the total price BTR would be paying for close on £1 billion of sales does look a bit of a snip. Dunlop has huge debts of £500 million but these are offset by the £200 million tax losses which BTR could put to good use.

There must surely now be a case for Dunlop to postpone its all-important extraordinary general meeting next Friday.

In its offer document BTR urges shareholders to send in proxy votes against the reconstruction. Even allowing the Post Office to deliver its mail on time this still leaves shareholders effectively just the weekend to make up their mind.

It would suit Sir Owen Green to drum up enough opposition from ordinary shareholders to block the reconstruction. He only needs 25 per cent of the ordinary shares to achieve this and he believes of the unfortunate prospect of having to decide whether to use his 28 per cent stake in Dunlop's preference shares which already give him the power to veto the reconstruction.

BTR has appointed a US firm of proxy "solicitation" agents to contact ADR holders and persuade them to vote against the reconstruction. US investors hold 27 per cent of Dunlop shares in this way so if the agency is successful it puts BTR well on the road to blocking the rescue package.

Moves afoot in gilt houses

Ever so imperceptibly, the still waters of City gilt houses are starting to churn, ahead of the drastic restructuring of the Government securities markets, with the "Big Bang". And feathers are being ruffled, as market personalities who would normally spend most of their careers with one house, are changing their allegiance and their jobs quite rapidly.

Such must be the snap reaction to this week's announcement by Union Discount, a leader among the City's discount houses, that it plans to apply for a primary gilt traders' licence. Ahead of its application, Union has recruited three gilt traders from Laing & Cruickshank to swell its gilts team.

On the face of it, Union's move ranks with the venture announced last year by Union's closest rivals, Gerrard & National, to team up with James Capel in a joint gilt market-making operation. But the significance of the Union move goes far deeper. Colin Pritchard, for example, one of the three Laing dealers involved in the move, is going back to Union, for whom he worked during the mid-seventies.

Anthony Gibbs, the second member of the trio to up sticks, is the son of Somerset Gibbs, a colourful Stock Exchange Council member during the mid-seventies who has rubbed shoulders with another well-known council member, Robin Stormonth-Darling, senior partner at Laing & Cruickshank.

Finally, the Laing salesmen were keen to move to Union as a team, an idea which presumably suited Graeme Gilchrist, Union managing director, very well. But it will hardly have pleased Laing & Cruickshank, since at a stroke, the broking firm lose virtually the whole of its short gilts force. Perhaps this is one reason why the original arrangements for the team to leave have been abruptly changed. They now pack their bags today, rather than at the end of March, as originally envisaged.

The announcement is something of a double blow for both Laing & Cruickshank and its putative parent, Mercantile House. Laing opted to move into gilts in a big way about five years ago, but like many an equity house attempting the switch, has not found the going too easy. A fairly continuous departure of individuals has marked the broking house's bid to break into gilts.

Cut in base rate likely but Bank takes cautious stance

By David Smith and Bailey Morris

An early cut of 1 per cent in bank base rates is likely, although the Bank of England signalled to the markets yesterday that it was adopting a cautious approach to lower interest rates.

Some money market traders predicted that the Bank would trim its intervention rates at lunchtime today. The general view, however, was that any official signal to the clearing banks to cut rates would come about the time of the publication of the January money supply figures, next Tuesday.

Market conditions in the new markets and the foreign exchanges, were calmer yesterday. The three-month interbank rate firmed ¼ to 12½-13½, a level consistent with a 1 or 1.5 per

cent reduction in base rates, at present 14 per cent.

The pound continued to gain ground, rising half a cent to \$1.1315, with the sterling index gaining 0.2 to 71.6.

The West German central bank announced a rise in its Lombard rate from 5.5 to 6 per cent, a move matched by the Dutch central bank. The rise, on domestic monetary considerations, was generally expected and had little impact in the foreign exchange markets or on base rate expectations in Britain.

The authorities in Britain are determined to ensure that any base rate reduction is sustainable and refused to be rushed into sanctioning a cut yesterday and on Wednesday.

Instead of cutting intervention rates in response to

offers from the discount houses yesterday, the Bank used purchase-and-resale arrangements totalling £455 million, plus £80 million of loans to the market.

The Bank appeared to be waiting for market conditions to stabilize and to be sure that renewed oil price concern or a dollar surge does not upset things again.

Yesterday, the dollar was held back by news of a 0.2 per cent fall in the index of leading indicators in December, suggesting weaker growth prospects.

The December decline when coupled with a substantial downward revision in November's results raised questions about the strength of the fourth quarter expansion which came after a sharp deceleration in growth during the third quarter

when the economy grew by only 1.6 per cent.

Commerce Department officials said the rise in the index in November was revised downward to 0.6 per cent from the earlier estimate of 1.3 per cent, largely because of negative information on business inventories.

The December results, which had been expected to show a gain of 0.3 per cent to 1 per cent, reflected substantial declines in five of the 11 indices included in the closely-followed measure of growth.

New contracts and orders for plant and equipment declined the most sharply, followed by declines in new business formations, deliveries to sellers, stock prices and permits for future construction.

Lonrho up a fifth to £135m

By Philip Robinson

Lonrho, the commodities, hotels, mining and leisure group, yesterday reported a record £135 million pretax profit and raised the total dividend by more than a fifth to 11p a share.

But the trading news was below expectations and the shares eased slightly before Lonrho's chief executive, Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, stepped in and bought 606,929 shares at 182p. The price closed at 180p.

On a turnover barely changed at £2.3 billion, Lonrho's pretax profits rose a fifth. The group, which once earned the bulk of its profits from mining and commodities, now has half its profits coming from the United Kingdom and the Americas, mainly in the casino and hotel industry.

In the United Kingdom profits advanced 23 per cent and in the Americas they rose 58 per cent. Lonrho says the trend has continued into the current year. Helping the United Kingdom figures is the elimination of losses from its steel, textile and publishing businesses. For the past three years the group has been selling assets which fail to provide an adequate return. It says now that nothing is immediately up for sale.

On speculation that Lonrho may sell the Observer newspaper to the Australian John Fairfax Group, Mr Paul Spicer, a Lonrho director, said last night: "I have no comment on that. The Observer is doing fine."

Lonrho's figures show that the profit on the £138 million sale of its 29.9 per cent stake in the House of Fraser stores group was £70 million.

Brokers fear costs may surge

By Jeremy Warner

Stockbrokers are beginning to worry about the extra administrative costs that will be placed on their firms if proposals for the protection of clients' assets in the White Paper on financial services are fully implemented.

The White Paper suggests legislation to require all investment business including stock brokers to negotiate clients' money in trust accounts as a way of reducing the possibility of fraud or loss of money through insolvency.

The Stock Exchange believes that its compensation fund provides more than adequate protection for clients' money and does not place such a requirement on member firms at present. While considering reducing administrative costs, this also allows brokers to pool clients' money on a short-term bases for overnight lending.

Mr Bryce Cottrell, senior partner of Phillips & Drew said that the legislation would have to be "very carefully drawn up" if it were not to add significantly to stock broking costs, while Mr Robin Stormonth-Darling of Laing & Cruickshank said that segregation of money might not necessarily be in clients' best interests.

ECGD likely to owe £400m by April

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

The Export Credits Guarantee Department is expected to have borrowed £400 million from the Consolidated Fund by the end of next month, Sir Gordon Downey, the comptroller and auditor general, reported yesterday.

Cash reserves of £280 million held at the end of March 1983 had been exhausted by last March when Consolidated Fund borrowing was about £42 million, and in spite of the fact that the department's basic financial objective was to operate at no net cost to the fund.

Sir Gordon said he expected borrowing to continue at even higher levels over the next two or three years.

He also qualified his certificate to the department's account for 1983-84 because of a failure to make provision for future political claims.

Yesterday's report also lev-



Sir Gordon Downey, qualified ECGD accounts.

elled specific criticism against two unprofitable business facilities: the comprehensive external trade facility, which lost £94.5 million up to last March, and the tender to contract scheme on which losses doubled to £87.7 million between March 1980 and last September.

News Int buys map firm

John Bartholomew & Son, the mapmaker, has been acquired by News International from the Reader's Digest Association.

This will enable Bartholomew to become closely integrated with its main customer, Times Books. It aims to become one of the largest cartographic operations in the

world within the next few years.

Bartholomew will continue to trade under its own name.

Bartholomew said: "We shall be taking over responsibility for selling and distributing from Edinburgh all Times Books, atlases and other publications, as well as those of Angus & Robertson."

Gold futures market to shut down

By Michael Prest, Financial Correspondent

London's struggle to maintain its standing as an international commodity centre suffered a sharp blow yesterday when the board of the London Gold Futures Market announced that the market would close after less than three years' trading.

In a statement explaining the rare decision to close a London futures exchange, the board said that a questionnaire of members in January had indicated little support for keeping the market open.

The board said: "These responses clearly showed a low level of support for the market." The overall response "fell well short of the positive majority required to allow the market to continue trading."

Only eight members were willing to maintain a continuous floor presence until the end of this year and 19 were prepared to pay a higher subscription to keep the market going.

Last night Mr Keith Smith, the managing director of Moccata & Goldsmith, a leading firm of bullion traders, who was a guiding light in establishing the market, said: "To all intents and purposes it has closed."

The necessary moves now are to set a date for closure in consultation with the International Commodities Clearing House and to obtain a formal resolution from the owners,

IN BRIEF

Life firms merge

Imperial Life Assurance of Canada has bought Trident Life Assurance, creating the third largest unit-linked life assurance sales force in Britain.

The two companies, combined under a holding company to be called Imperial Trident Holdings, will have 1,100 salesmen. Hambro Life, with 3,000 has the largest sales force and Abbey Life the second largest.

Imperial Life bought Trident from General Re, the large US reinsurance company, for an undisclosed sum. Mr Roger Wain, chief executive of Imperial Life in Britain, said: "We intend to create a broadly-based financial services operation in the UK."

Rolls chief

Sir Francis Tombs, chairman of the Turner & Newall engineering company and a former chairman of the Electricity Council, was named yesterday as the new chairman of the state-owned Rolls-Royce aero-engine company. The former chairman, Sir William Duncan, who was also chief executive, died suddenly last November.

The deputy chairman and managing director of House of Fraser, Mr William Crossan, will retire on September 1. His job has been split between Mr Murdoch McMaster and Mr Peter Brimacombe, who will be joint managing directors.

Societies' funds

Building society net receipts for January are estimated at £850 million, giving the societies a further reason to delay another mortgage rate rise. Although it is lower than the £926 million for the same month last year, the January figure is more than enough to meet current mortgage demand.

Board departure

Mr Barney Goodman who linked with Mr Selim Zilkha more than 20 years ago to create the Mothercare chain, is leaving the main board of Habitat Mothercare to go into investment banking.

US takeover

Systems Designers International, the computer consultant, is buying the US software company Warrington for up to \$30 million (£23 million) and raising £27.2 million by way of a two-for-five rights issue.

Tempus, page 21

Midland plans record issue to raise £531m

Midland Bank is raising \$600 million (£531 million) of market funds with the largest ever issue of floating rate certificates of deposit (FRCs).

The issue, which has a five-year maturity and was led by the group's merchant bank subsidiary Samuel Montagu, was increased from an initial \$400 million in the face of strong market demand.

It was trading yesterday at a slight premium to the 99.56 per cent selling price.

The money will be used to replace existing money market deposits with the added attraction that it will lengthen the average maturity of the bank's liabilities.

Midland will receive the money from the CD issue in the middle of this month, and the rate will be set on February 13.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns: STOCK MARKETS, MAIN PRICE CHANGES, CURRENCIES, INTEREST RATES, GOLD, FALLS. Lists various market indices and prices.

DATASTREAM advertisement. Text: Planning without Datastream... can leave you in the dark... Can you ever know enough about the industry you are in, or the industry you want to get into? On line, with flexible formatting, search facilities and a dynamic international database of company accounts, you can get the information you require. Not only get it, but you can also put it in context with compatible data from our large historic database covering economic series, interest and exchange rates and equity information. Data and manipulation, on your terminal or ours... Call us in London on: (01) 250 3000

WALL STREET

Table of stock market data including Dow Jones index, various stock prices, and market movements.

Dow slips in early trade

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Shares were holding steady at lower levels in active trading early yesterday. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 4.75 at 1,263.13.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various goods like sugar, coffee, and oil.

APPOINTMENTS

Inenco Group: Mr Roger Kirby has been made managing director. McCormack & Dodge: Mr Tom Dewley has been promoted to financial director.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

The market, seeing the pound establishing itself well above \$1.12, remained optimistic yesterday. Early talk was of base rates moving swiftly down from 14 per cent to 12 1/2 per cent or even 12 per cent.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures data including Treasury Bond, Long Oil, and FT-SE 100.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for name, price, and other financial metrics.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of financial trusts with columns for name, price, and other financial metrics.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The pound had another reasonable day on the foreign exchange, although trading at the month-end has not exactly been busy.

AUTHORIZED UNIT TRUSTS

Table of authorized unit trusts with columns for name, price, and other financial metrics.

AUTHORIZED UNIT TRUSTS

Table of authorized unit trusts with columns for name, price, and other financial metrics.

RECENT ISSUES

ANNOUNCEMENT: Access to the... (text regarding company announcements and financial reports).

COMPANY NEWS

NORFOLK: In his annual statement the chairman... (text regarding Norfolk Group's performance).

Advertisement for Matthew Brown, featuring a logo and text about their brewing history and products.

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.

Lonrho has achieved record profits in its 75th operational year

THE TREND CONTINUES INTO THE CURRENT YEAR

R W Rowland, Chief Executive

Your Company has achieved record profits in 1984, its seventy-fifth operational year, largely due to the performance of subsidiaries in the United Kingdom and the Americas. Earnings per share have increased by a substantial 31 per cent and the total dividends for the year are the highest ever. The trend continues into the current year.

The Group balance sheet continues to strengthen with gross assets increasing to over £2 billion at the year end, including cash balances of £126 million which increased by the receipt of £166 million in November following the sale of our investment in House of Fraser and a bond issue in Germany. This resulted in total net borrowings, excluding those relating to our confirming businesses, decreasing from 30 per cent in 1983 to 21 per cent of gross assets.

Net assets per share have also increased by nearly 22 per cent to 241 pence per share.

Whilst still maintaining our investments in Africa, we have been expanding in the United Kingdom, Europe and the Americas which has, we consider, resulted in a significantly well balanced business, with profit contribution from these three areas now accounting for 47 per cent of total profits.

The hotel and casino divisions have substantially increased their profitability in the year with the Princess Properties International Group performing particularly well. A large proportion of the Group's capital expenditure during the year has been spent on upgrading and expanding these divisions.

I am glad to report that our manufacturing companies in the United Kingdom have also had a very good year, with greatly improved results being achieved by the Firststeel Group, Lonrho Textiles and George Outram. Some of our manufacturing companies in Africa have, however, been affected by reduced demand in local markets; but there are already signs of some improvement in the current year.

Our traditional activities of agriculture and mining continue to improve. We are the largest commercial food producer in Africa and, through well-managed companies, have been able not only to supply local markets with produce but also to earn valuable foreign exchange for the countries concerned through the export of agricultural products not in demand locally. It is in this manner that we have been able to make a positive contribution to the alleviation of the plight of many people in the areas affected by drought.

You will already be aware that we disposed of our investment in House of Fraser in November for a cash consideration of £138 million and retained the right to receive a gross dividend of £2 million. This investment was acquired at a cost of slightly under £67 million, thereby producing, I am sure you will agree, a handsome return even without taking account of the £25 million dividend income received over the years.

Since the sale we have acquired a 6.3 per cent shareholding in House of Fraser. With our knowledge of the business we considered our purchases at around 300 pence per share, to be an attractive investment. We have also been before the Monopolies Commission and the outcome of their deliberations will have a direct bearing on our future policy regarding House of Fraser.

It was with sadness that we learned that Lord Duncan Sandys was intending to stand down as Chairman of your Company after many years. Sir Edward du Cann, who has been acting Chairman for the past year, has accepted the Board's unanimous offer of the Chairmanship. However, I am sure you will be pleased to know that Lord Duncan Sandys has accepted the position of President and will, therefore, remain with your Company. Finally, I would like to thank all employees worldwide for their hard work, loyalty and enthusiasm, without which we would not have been able to report such fine results this year.

MINING AND REFINING

Our platinum operations had a successful year with record output and profits. Production expanded to 235,000 ounces of platinum group metals in the year from 134,000 ounces only three years ago, and we have started a two year programme to increase output by a further 35,000 ounces per year. In addition, construction of our new plant to refine rhodium, ruthenium and iridium is now nearing completion and we will complete the erection of the copper/nickel refinery on the mine site by the end of the current year.

Group gold production was again well maintained at the 406,000 ounce per year level and profitability has increased.

Apart from other expansion programmes, a major increase in production is planned at the Ashanti gold mine in Ghana using funds from a consortium led by the International Finance Corporation.

The first of two large shaft systems to exploit the extensive gold reserves of Eastern Gold Holdings, the major new mine administered by The Anglo American Corporation, is nearing completion and underground development has commenced.

We continue to have a 36 per cent shareholding in this property. Significant improvements in profits from bituminous coal and anthracite mining have recently been forthcoming as a result of strengthening demand.

In equal partnership with Atlantic Richfield and Shell, we have been awarded a concession by the Bahamian Government for offshore oil and gas exploration covering some 2.4 million acres.

Production at our seven sugar estates in Malawi, Mauritius, South Africa and Swaziland increased to 426,000 tonnes during the year and overall profitability increased.

The main area of the Group's expansion in Zambia is in the agricultural sector, where Kalangwa Estates, one of the largest producers of agricultural goods in the country, has made significant progress growing vegetables for export. The company continues to supply a large range of dairy and other produce for the home market.

Despite a third successive year of drought our agricultural activities in Zimbabwe achieved profit growth. The policy of strictly controlled stocking levels and continuing good ranch management has resulted in

satisfactory results from the ranches where 14,000 head of cattle were sold in the year. Revenue from wattle and coffee sales benefited from the strong U.S. dollar with 6,158 tonnes of wattle extract being exported and coffee production increasing.

At East African Tanning Extract in Kenya, prolonged periods without rain affected crop yields. It continues to be

beautifully refurbished by Fassmidge, Son & Norris, who carried out the building work and improvements, working to a very tight schedule. This enhancement has turned the International Sporting Club into the flagship of the casino division.

Our casinos in the provinces have also had a highly encouraging year, increasing profits by 80 per cent. We firmly believe that profits will be even more substantial by the end of the current year.

MOTOR DISTRIBUTION

V.A.G (United Kingdom), the sole U.K. importer for Audi and Volkswagen products, again had a highly successful year with profits and sales of 106,000 vehicles the second highest ever, narrowly missing last year's record performance.

The company has maintained its position as the leading importer of European cars with a market share of 5.5 per cent. Two important new Volkswagen models, the Golf and

The Group's hotels in the United Kingdom handled over one thousand conferences in the period under review, thus maintaining their position as the leading exhibition and conference group in the country.

Major improvements were made to several of the Metropole hotels.

Record occupancies were achieved by all hotels with our new hotel in Blackpool doing particularly well, reaching an average occupancy of 73 per cent in its second full year of operation.

The casino division has also had a very satisfactory year. It was the first full year of operation at new premises for Crockford's Club, which has proved immensely successful.

Jetta, were successfully introduced to the market and are already outselling their predecessors.

The company's prestige marque, Audi, also continued to make excellent progress. The Group is also the sole importer for M.A.N. and Volkswagen commercial vehicles, and this part of the business reported a further improvement in sales performance.

Dutton-Forsyth has maintained its position as the fourth biggest retailer of Austin Rover vehicles within the United Kingdom and sold almost 19,000 BL vehicles.

Jack Barclay maintained its position as the world's leading distributor of Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars.

have penetrated the bond market for prospectus and bond printing sold as one package. They are the only printers within a single organisation who can offer the printing of prospectuses, bonds and official advertisements under strict security conditions.

Harrison & Sons celebrated the 50th year of holding the British Post Office stamp printing contract and are the world's largest commercial stamp producers.

Holmes McDougall undertook a co-publishing venture with the EEC for a book outlining the role of the EEC to be distributed to schools in the United Kingdom.

The Firststeel Group in the United Kingdom has produced very pleasing results with profits almost double those of 1983. The successful introduction of new products played a major part in increasing the activity levels of these companies by 50 per cent over the previous year.

The engineering and process plant companies continue to be affected by the recession. Despite this, most of these companies traded profitably. Tollemache successfully completed the refuse transfer station at Blackpool and Lightfoot Refrigeration was highly profitable.

There has been a substantial reorganisation of our stainless steel sinks division, which achieved a comfortable profit compared to losses last year.

Our water treatment contracting company, S.E.E. in Belgium, has made progress with major contracts in Africa and the United Arab Emirates.

The division of Holts in Nigeria, which assembles and sells generators based on Rolls-Royce and Deutz engines, had a very good year.

Our engineering company in Zimbabwe, W. Dahmer, exported a fleet of buses to Zambia during the year and continues to dominate the Zimbabwe market with its fine, robust vehicles, as much as 70 per cent of the constituent parts of which are manufactured locally.

Vitrex Paints in Zambia achieved an increase in profitability in the year with demand for its products far exceeding its production levels.

Whyte & Mackay continued to pursue its policy of long term brand development.

Whyte & Mackay Special is now judged to be the ninth biggest brand of all spirit types in the United Kingdom and sixth in England. During the year an important association was formed with IDV (UK) Ltd., who now represent Whyte & Mackay in various major English outlets.

Our French wine interests have had another satisfactory year with recent vintages from Châteaux Rausan-Segla and Smith-Haut-Lafitte receiving some particularly favourable comment.

In Kenya we commenced production and distribution of traditional African beer during the year and we also continue to operate 18 breweries elsewhere in partnership with African Governments and Municipalities.

The Group now has three bottling plants in Nigeria and a plant in Zambia, principally handling Pepsi-Cola and Coca-Cola in the respective countries.

The Observer continued to maintain its position in the quality Sunday newspaper market, with six of its journalists winning major awards for their work.

Our 22 provincial newspapers, published by Scottish & Universal Newspapers, increased circulation levels whilst most of our competitors were showing varying levels of decline.

Greenaway - Harrison, in conjunction with Harrison & Sons,



The Princess - Hamilton, Bermuda

	1984	1983
Turnover	£2,367m	£2,356m
Profit before tax	£135.4m	£113.2m
Profit attributable to shareholders	£55.0m	£40.6m
Earnings per share	20.9p	15.5p
Dividends per share	11.0p	9.0p
Net assets per share	241p	198p

The seventy-sixth Annual General Meeting of Lonrho Plc will be held at the Great Room, Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London, W.1. on Thursday, 28th March, 1985.

The International Sporting Club was transferred to its new premises in Mayfair on 18 July, and the opening was a huge success. The building has been

Western Machinery & Equipment introduced a new range of forage harvesters manufactured by Taarup which have achieved the No. 1 position in the United Kingdom market for this equipment and Watveare has made spectacular progress in sales of Deutz-Fahr combine harvesters.

Lonrho has been appointed United Kingdom concessionaire for the range of vehicles produced by the Spanish motor manufacturer SEAT.

In many African countries we continue to be agents and distributors for a number of major vehicle and agricultural equipment manufacturers, including Mercedes Benz, Massey Ferguson, Toyota, Peugeot, Land Rover, Volkswagen, BL and the range of General Motors.

Warrens, Deutz-Fahr distributors - Witshire

PRINTING AND PUBLISHING

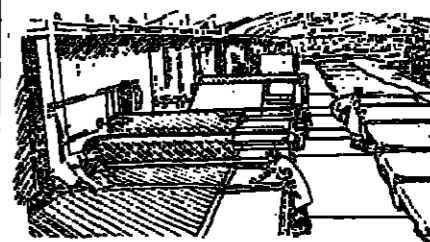
There has been a significant resurgence in the fortunes of the Glasgow Herald and Evening Times. Circulations of both papers improved steadily and advertising volumes have also shown very encouraging increases.

The Observer continued to maintain its position in the quality Sunday newspaper market, with six of its journalists winning major awards for their work.

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Greenaway - Harrison, in conjunction with Harrison & Sons,

TEXTILES



Cutting fabric - Lonrho Textiles, Cramlington

Lonrho Textiles made substantial progress, achieving its first ever trading profit. The Accord Shops, Brentfords and the recently acquired John Wilson Household Fashions, sell through over 250 retail high street and shop-in-shop operations, making Lonrho Textiles one of the largest bedlinen retailers in the United Kingdom.

The factory at Cramlington is by far the largest vertically integrated on-site textile operation in the United Kingdom, processing 250 miles of wide-width fabric per week.

Overall, David Whitehead and Sons in the United Kingdom did well during the year, despite some problems with the jersey knitting line in John Barnes. Our household textile company, Besco Baron, had a reasonable year, recovering strongly in the second half.

David Whiteheads in Zimbabwe had a poor year caused largely by a weak domestic market which led to the company exporting more of its products at lower profit levels.

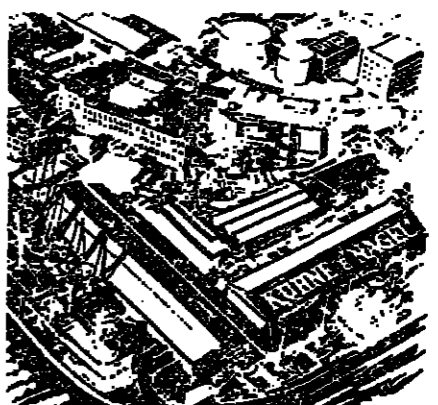
David Whiteheads in Malawi performed creditably.

A large proportion of Malawi's agricultural produce is now packed in "Produksaks" manufactured by Blantyre Netting. Productivity increased by 10 per cent in the sack section, which has been operating virtually non-stop throughout the year.

KÜHNE & NAGEL

Kühne & Nagel, who employ nearly 7,500 people, have had another excellent year, particularly in their Western Hemisphere group where profits in Canada and the United States have increased considerably. Trading in Germany, the United Kingdom, the Far East and Australia also progressed satisfactorily.

In addition to their transport connected activities, including freight forwarding, warehousing and ship handling, stevedoring and port agencies, Kühne & Nagel have set up an insurance brokerage group handling both marine and non-marine business.



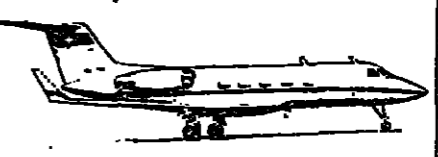
Kühne & Nagel terminal facilities - Rotterdam

Two warehousing companies were acquired in the United States, whilst a container terminal in the port of Rotterdam is currently under construction.

Kühne & Nagel are continually endeavouring to expand their spread of agencies throughout the world.

FINANCE, GENERAL TRADE AND AIRCRAFT

The Group's property investment companies have had another very successful year.

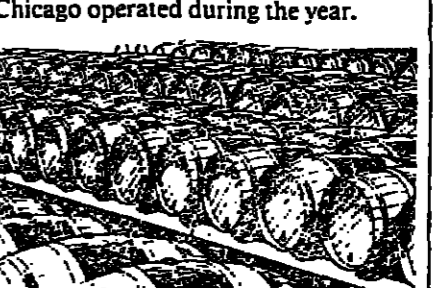


Gulfstream III - one of the Group operated aircraft

The programme of selective sales has continued but, notwithstanding these, the overall value of the portfolio at the end of the year has increased to in excess of £66 million. The annual net rental income, both in the United Kingdom and in France, has also substantially improved.

The international financing and confirming operations of Balfour Williamson were again seriously affected by world trading conditions, but prospects for 1985 are considerably brighter.

Tradewinds Airways became Britain's first scheduled all-cargo carrier in November 1983, and scheduled services to Toronto and Chicago operated during the year.



Underground cellar - Château Smith-Haut-Lafitte, Bordeaux

Southern Watch and Clock, who are suppliers to the horological trade, had a very satisfactory year and continue to be a consistently good profit earner for the Group.

Baumann Hinde, the Group's cotton merchandising company, traded well despite unsettled market conditions.

Yours sincerely,
Tony Rowland

1909 75 YEARS 1984 LONRHO

Lonrho Plc, Cheapside House, 138 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6BL.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up in pence and your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Lists various companies like ELECTORALS, BANKS DISCOUNT HP, BUILDING AND ROADS, etc.

Weekly Dividend. Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

Table with columns: DAY, MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUNDAY. For tracking daily dividends.

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

Table listing various British funds with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table listing banks and discount rates with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E.

ELECTORALS

Table listing electoral companies with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, P/E.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Markets drift

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings, Began, Jan 28. Dealings End, Feb 8. Closing Day, Feb 11. Settlement Day, Feb 18. Forward bargains are permitted for two previous days.

Main stock exchange price table with multiple columns for company names, prices, changes, dividends, yields, and P/E ratios. Includes sections for BUILDING AND ROADS, FINANCE AND LAND, FOODS, HOTELS AND CATERERS, INDUSTRIALS, etc.

THE TIMES Portfolio DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000. Claims required for +30 points. Claimants should ring 0254-53272.

Table listing oil companies and their prices.

Table listing overseas traders and their prices.

Table listing paper, printing, and advertising companies.

Table listing property companies and their prices.

Table listing shipping companies and their prices.

Table listing shoes and leather goods.

Table listing textiles companies.

Table listing tobacco companies.

Table listing newspapers and publishers.

INDUSTRY TODAY

Nissan stalls on the road to Tyne-and-Wear

By Kenneth Fleet

The project to make Japanese cars in the UK needs help

A meeting is due to take place in Switzerland today that could have a vital bearing on the future of the new factory in Britain. If it is true that we can remain a serious manufacturing country only as long as we have the capacity to make cars in volume, the meeting may also be significant for the future of the British economy.

The two men who will confront each other are a beleaguered Takashi Ishihara, president of Nissan Motor, the world's fourth biggest vehicle manufacturer, and Octav Botnar, founder, chairman, moving spirit and controller of Nissan UK since 1970 sole and outstandingly successful importer of Nissan cars into the United Kingdom. Looking through the window both men can see clouds gathering over Nissan's laboriously conceived infant project to assemble KD kits brought from Japan and later to make Nissan cars on a greenfield site near Washington, Tyne-and-Wear.

Crucial to Nissan's scheme to produce cars in substantial numbers primarily for the British market—secondarily for export to other European Economic Community countries, is the ability to sell them. The Nissan UK dealer network, which is one of the few export channels through which Nissan Motor had made money, is ready made.

Mr Botnar, who has just agreed to sell his importing company in Switzerland to Nissan Motor, accepts that the transfer of Nissan UK, though a personal wrench, would be in the best interests of his dealers and employees and, potentially, "enormously profitable" for Nissan Motor. There are two not inconsiderable difficulties.

One, Nissan Motor is not at present in a position to buy it, at least not without financial strain. Two, the longer Nissan Motor is in a state of indecision about moving to the second, manufacturing phase of the Washington project, the greater the risk that Nissan UK's operation will be eroded by quota and competitive pressures and the shorter the period Nissan will have left to extend, prepare and rehearse its dealer network in the bigger role for which it has been cast.

Nissan UK, whose ultimate holding company is the Dutch registered European Motor

Vehicles BV, made an average pre-tax profit in the last three years for which accounts have been filed (and July 1981-1982, 1983) of about £50 million. Turnover in that time rose from £302.6 million to £382.4 million. Nissan UK is therefore one of the most profitable private companies in Britain.

While the going for Nissan UK has not been as good in the last 18 months, for Nissan Motor it has been heavily scarred with bumps and pitfalls. In the year to end March 1984 net profits fell 26.1 per cent to 71 billion yen (£245.6 million). In the first half of the current financial year (to end-September) net profits rose 15.7 per cent to 41.6 billion yen. The realities behind this apparently improving picture are less satisfactory. Nissan's vehicle sales, both in Japan and overseas, were down; it had lost and may still be losing Japanese market share to its great rival Toyota, whose profits are still climbing; and



Octav Botnar (left) and Takashi Ishihara meet as the clouds gather

the gloss on the half-year figures comes almost entirely from the extra profit on export sales manufactured by the yen's fall against the dollar.

As I discovered, there is much agonizing and not a little

depression of the Ginza where Nissan has its head office. Most of it is directed, inevitably, against Mr Ishihara. The president's position is not helped by the divide between him and his predecessor, the chairman,

Katsuji Kawamata, whose Japanese insularity leaves little room for Mr Ishihara's grand strategy of manufacturing in Nissan's major Western markets, particularly the United Kingdom project.

The private man who built one of Britain's finest businesses

If there is a lesson here and we are willing to learn it, no one would be more pleased than Octav Botnar, whose own achievement is one of the most remarkable success stories in Britain since the 1939-45 war. It is a story seldom told because, although not a shy man, he does not have the vanity that craves publicity. He is now in his seventies. "I have lived through a turbulent epoch," he observed quietly, "and as a result know myself better and understand things better than I might otherwise do."

He was sent to this country in the mid 1960s to reorganize the German NSU car and motorcycle dealership which had got into difficulties. After the intervention of Volkswagens and Thomas Tilling, NSU finally submerged but not before the first imports of Japanese cars into Britain in 1968-69. NSU had a licence to distribute Datsun vehicles (102 were sold in 1968) but then decided to drop it. The licence was taken up by the far-sighted Octav Botnar.

NSU staff and dealers followed him to form the nucleus of Datsun UK, which was first registered in 1970. The name was changed to Nissan UK on January 1, 1984 to reflect the changing relationship of the Japanese company with the

United Kingdom. In March last year Datsun-Nissan UK sold its millionth car, a milestone no other British importer of foreign cars has begun to approach.

While straightening out NSU in the sixties Octav Botnar had observed two things:

"The big manufacturers had three-tier systems: manufacturer, distributor and small dealer. Main dealers were given big discounts out of which they had to look after small dealers. But the margin was not enough and they were selling too few cars to enable them to compete on price."

"Where they made money was in repairing cars, including new cars that were sub-standard when they left the factory. Up to half the activity in dealers repairs shops was putting new cars right. They were an extension of the manufacturing process."

Quantity and quality are the rocks on which Datsun UK's success has been built. "The link is direct - between the manufacturer/importer and the dealer. By cutting out the main dealer, we had closer control and more margin with which to work. Without the cost of a vast bureaucracy notionally engaged in selling cars, Datsun could offer dealers bigger margins and they in turn could sell at lower prices. The reliability of the cars themselves was a key factor. We could afford to have dealers with no, or very small, workshops."

For a man who confesses liking cars "not particularly", his innovations amounted "really to common sense and using your own imagination."

He also noted "a lack of motivation despite the fact that dealers were not making much

money and could see British Leyland going down." He decided to recruit a new generation of dealers: "Younger people, with no money and no showrooms, but ready to do for themselves. They had the will and were hungry."

"I established a rapport with them, tried to give them confidence that theirs was a long-term business and helped them with credit. Datsun (now Nissan) Finance offered cheap finance on a no profit/no loss basis. I could develop a close relationship with the dealers because I was not a manufacturer requiring them to take a specified number of cars."

By 1974 Datsun had become Britain's leading imported cars. They have remained in the forefront, with sales now in excess of 100,000 a year. In the same year Mr Botnar set aside £5 million in Datsun UK shares for a charitable trust, the Camilla Botnar Foundation. His, and his wife Marcella's, deeply moving concern for children are visible in a centre for handicapped children at Worthing, Nissan UK's headquarters, and an imaginative scheme for helping rehabilitate through work young people who have family or social problems.

Octav Botnar's efforts to persuade Nissan to make cars in Britain stretched back long before the Japanese made their first cautious commitment just under a year ago. In 1975 as "a temporary measure" to assist in the recovery of British Leyland the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers and Traders agreed with the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders to limit exports to Britain to 11 per cent of the market.

Of the 11 per cent Nissan UK has succeeded in holding six per cent - a quota noticeably larger than that of Toyota, Japan's biggest motor manufacturer. As the temporary, all too frequently proves permanent, it is prudent to expect quotas to remain, leaving both Nissan Motor and Nissan UK's 425-dealer network with decidedly limited growth prospects in this market.

In the short run the agreement the Government concluded with Nissan Motor will operate against Nissan UK's interest. The 24,000 cars to be assembled in the North-east from next year will come off Mr Botnar's quota. They are also bound initially to be below the standard of cars imported complete from Japan. But in the medium and long term the beneficial logic of local manufacture is irresistible - for Nissan, for Nissan dealers here and arguably for the future of the British economy.

Mr Botnar is in no doubt: "Nissan needs a base to help export cars to continental Europe. The Japanese have the know-how for making small cars, which are comfortable, cheap to run and reliable. They have the factory discipline and the modern technology. With the rapid advance of electronics, the number of components in cars is considerably reduced; manufacturers are doing more

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themselves; and they are doing it centrally. In the United Kingdom the industry averages about 14 cars per man; in Japan the figure is 44."

The limiting pressures on Nissan UK are not confined to import quotas. Appreciation of the Japanese yen against sterling (23 per cent in 18 months) has raised prices of imported Japanese cars at a time when the British car market has become a bloody battlefield. Price-cutting, in its various forms, has reduced car prices to levels which Nissan UK can no longer easily match. Having had little difficulty selling cars in the past, some Nissan dealers find they haven't the stomach for a bumpy ride. They have been forced into heavy discounting. Nissan UK is also importing more expensive/higher margin cars like the 130 mph 1.8 litre turbo charged Silvia coupé and the 155 mph three litre ZX Turbo Targa to help maintain its sales quota.

The essential point is that Nissan UK needs more volume to compete effectively in a market that will remain savagely competitive as long as the American giants, GM and Ford, choose to punch their huge weight and Mrs Thatcher is prepared to prime BL's pump. It is hard to see where that extra volume can come from except the plant now taking shape in Tyne-and-Wear.

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ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT STOCK

The Bank of England announces that Her Majesty's Treasury has created on 30th January 1985, and has issued to the Bank, additional amounts as indicated of each of the following stocks:

- £200 million 10½ per cent TREASURY STOCK, 1989
- £200 million 12 per cent TREASURY STOCK, 1995
- £100 million 10½ per cent CONVERSION STOCK, 1999

The price paid by the Bank on issue was in each case the middle market closing price of the relevant stock on 30th January 1985 as certified by the Government Broker.

In addition, Her Majesty's Treasury has created on 30th January 1985, and has issued to the National Debt Commissioners for public funds under their management, additional amounts as indicated of each of the following stocks:

- £150 million 11 per cent EXCHEQUER STOCK, 1989
- £150 million 11½ per cent TREASURY STOCK, 1991

In each case, the amount issued on 30th January 1985 represents a further tranche of the relevant stock, raising in all respects pari passu with that stock and subject to the terms and conditions of its prospectus, save as to the particulars therein which related solely to the initial sale of the stock. Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for each further tranche of stock to be admitted to the Official List.

Copies of the prospectuses for 10½ per cent Treasury Stock, 1989 and 12 per cent Treasury Stock, 1995 dated 8th April 1983 and 9th September 1977 respectively, and of the prospectus dated 28th April 1983 for 2½ per cent Index-Linked Treasury Convertible Stock, 1999 (which contained the terms of issue of 10½ per cent Conversion Stock, 1999) may be obtained at the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA. The stocks are repayable at par, and interest is payable half-yearly, on the dates shown below:

Stock	Redemption date	Interest payment dates
10½ per cent Treasury Stock, 1989	14th June 1989	14th June
12 per cent Treasury Stock, 1995	26th January 1995	14th December
10½ per cent Conversion Stock, 1999	22nd November 1999	26th January
		22nd May
		22nd November

Each further tranche of stock issued on 30th January 1985 will rank for a full six months' interest on the next interest payment date applicable to the relevant stock. Official dealings in the stocks on The Stock Exchange are expected to commence on Friday, 1st February 1985.

BANK OF ENGLAND
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30th January 1985

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Bowring

Results for the year ended 31st December, 1984 (Unaudited)

	1984	1983
Operating Revenue	114.0	95.2
Operating Expenses	(80.7)	(70.5)
Operating Profit	33.3	24.7
Share of Profits of Associates	2.0	1.6
Other Income	1.2	0.4
Profit before tax	36.5	26.7
Provision for U.K. tax	(17.2)	(15.1)
Profit after tax	19.3	11.6

- Operating Revenue has increased by 20%.
- Profit before tax has increased by 37%.

The above figures do not constitute full group accounts for the Bowring Group and have been adjusted to comply with generally accepted accounting practices in the United States. Earnings of subsidiary companies which were sold during 1983 and 1984 together with other items which are not relevant to operating performance have been excluded. The full financial statements for the year ended 31st December 1983 of C. T. Bowring & Co. Limited have been filed with the Registrar of Companies and the report of the auditors thereon was unqualified. The full financial statements for the year ended 31st December 1984 have not yet been reported upon by the auditors and have not yet been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

Copies of the full announcement may be obtained from the Secretary, C.T. Bowring & Co. Ltd., The Bowring Building, Tower Place, London EC3P 3BE.

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YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Co-op with a vital difference

By Ian A. Jack
In a one-time tailoring factory in Sunderland is what is said to be the first business-services operation in Britain run entirely by the physically disabled...



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by the council. The group now has a growing telex bureau for local firms. The group started with a mail-shot of 3,000 leaflets to Wearside traders offering "a comprehensive and cost-effective package of office and business services to meet the individual requirements of local companies"...

How to learn who's doing what

Small and medium-size companies dominate the newly-launched Growth Companies Register which identifies the 1,000 fastest-growing private companies in Britain (Derek Harris writes). Over 400 of those which qualified for the register more than doubled profits in their latest trading year.

The first register has been compiled from the database of the ICC Information Group, a leading source of companies information. It is the work of Growth Data Services, whose managing director, Roy Assersohn, laid down a minimum criterion of £50,000 in profits with a record of at least two years' growth.

MR FRIDAY Ken Ryan
This is what I hate - sitting around waiting to be stimulated by the Government

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STOCK-MARKET REPORT

US investors brighten a dull day

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

American investors were back in force yesterday. After dithering on the sidelines for much of this week, they emerged as active share buyers as the stock market appeared to be drifting to a dull-uneventful close.

In the last two hours transactional interest helped to cut the deficit on the FT 30 share index and actually pushed the more broadly based FT-SE share index into higher ground.

At the close the FT 30 index stood at 986.1 points, down 0.6 points, and the FT-SE was 3.4

Globe Investment Trust is said to be encouraging its only sitting tenant out of the Electra House headquarters, one of the prime sites along the Victoria Embankment. The tenants, British Telecom, has been sitting since 1947 and owns a lease that stretches into the next century. The building is in the Globe books at about £3 million. An empty block could be worth ten times that and give Globe a more lucrative rental income into the bargain. Globe shares rose 1p to 263p.

points higher at 1,280.8 points. Drug shares, however, had a difficult day. Fears of price cutting in the hitherto potentially lucrative Japanese market hit Beecham Group and Glaxo Group.

Beecham fell 13p to 363p and Glaxo lost 10p to 120p. Boots, the high street chemist, dipped 4p to 176p; de Zoete & Bevan, the stockbroker, marginally downgraded its profits forecasts to bring them more into line with the rest of Throgmorton Street expectations. The broker is optimistic about sales of fluoroprofen-based drugs in the US, and also believes the shares are undervalued currently. Nevertheless,

the broker now expects £180 million of profits in 1985, and £200 million in 1986, given the maturity of the non-drug divisions in the group.

Suggestions that Polly Peck, the master company in the Asil Nadir empire, was about to make a rights issue left the shares unchanged at 242p, after an earlier dip to 239p.

Neither Mr Nadir nor the company's stockbroker was available to comment.

Today Mr Nadir is due to meet shareholders of Polly Peck and its sister company Cornhill Holdings.

Godfrey Davis, the Ford main dealer which has spread into park homes and portable buildings, attracted takeover speculation and rose 3p to 121p. But Mr Cecil Redfern, chairman, said he had not received an approach.

Paula, the food flavourings group edged 3p higher to 256p as the City heard that it was selling its German maltings business for £2.5 million.

Elsewhere on the foods pitch prices trended close to overnight levels, although there were a few exceptions. Retailers J Sainsbury fell 8p to 328p as profit-taking followed the recent strong run in the shares. For the first time in a week, US buyers of the stock were conspicuous by their absence.

Kwik Save and Tesco moved firmly ahead, the former rising

6p to 186p and the latter lifting 3p higher to 230p.

S & W Berisford gained 6p to 167p as market men heard that the group had sold its 60 per cent stake in the Billingsgate development. But Mr Harold Wiltshire, financial director at the commodities to property group, said: "We have not received an offer for the property, and we are not in

negotiations to sell it. Of course, if someone came along with a good price, we would sell."

Earlier in the week S & W Berisford shares weakened following a lunch with a City broking firm. The company gave the brokers' indigestion at that point.

Meanwhile, Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank which paid £25 million for a 25-year lease on offices at the old fish market site, could well be close to selling its sublease. The bank, at second glance, found the lease too expensive, and the space more than required. A spokesman for the bank would not comment on suggestions

showing £135 million profits for last year.

A high proportion of the options dealt were calls - 1,310, against 808 puts. For once, British Telecom trades were overshadowed.

Few other equity contracts came close to those levels of trade. Other major business was in the FT-SE 100 share contract, where a total of 909 contracts were traded, and the gilt contract: 574 contracts in the Government stock changed hands.

Until the Americans appeared shares had looked particularly subdued with at one time the FT 30 share index down 8.1 points as investors took profits and registered their disappointment that base rates remained unchanged.

Oil, reflecting the Opec agreement, started well but then drifted off and in most cases finished little changed. But Falco Resources, on its US drilling report, made further headway, reaching 382p, up 37p.

Government stocks had another good day as sterling edged

forward in the foreign exchange market.

John Waddington, the Leeds-based cards and games maker, jumped 25p to 520p as stories of another takeover attempt circulated the market. Mr Robert Maxwell, chairman of Pergamon Press and British Printing Communications Corporation, failed with his second assault on Waddington late last year, and subsequently disposed of his 19 per cent stake. Now, market men reckon another buyer has a chunk of that stock and is preparing a bid.

But, as far as the City is aware, the bulk of Mr Maxwell's holding in Waddington was placed with up to 14 institutions, leaving little room for another bidder to get a foothold.

Mr Gordon Currie, former head of Belhaven Brewery, is aiming for a USM hat-trick. One of his companies, Capital Television Facilities is already traded and Crown International Productions will make its debut next month. Number three, Greenstar Hotels, is scheduled for next year. In the meantime it is raising £500,000 through a private share placing.

Some modest encouragement from the high proportion of new institutions, 40 per cent, which have agreed to underwrite the rights issue.

The shares, earlier suspended at 15p, returned to the list and closed at 14p compared to the rights price of 12½p.

When the interim results of Blundell-Permolglaze were announced last July, the chairman Mr Robert White said he expected the year's results to be much the same at £2 million. In fact, pretax profits in the year to October 31 fell 39 per cent to £1.24 million on turnover 5 per cent higher at £37.1 million.

Between July and October, the decorative industrial paint market saw severe price pressure brought on by increasing capacity in a static market.

A 5 per cent price increase at the start of Blundell's year was only enough to cover raw material price rises. With fixed overheads and the loss of 1 million litres of volume at the year-end, the result was a severe blow to profits.

The outlook is not very encouraging. The market remains static or worse. Local authorities' maintenance programmes, an important source of business to Blundell, are due for yet more cuts. Blundell lost two local authority contracts last year. With the profits outlook unexciting, the yield at 7.3 per cent, on shares down 12p at 137p, affords a drop.

TEMPUS SDI delights the City with a novel takeover deal

Samuel Montagu, banker to the computer consultancy Systems Designers International, has come up with a new way of financing takeovers. Not a conventional rights issue, not a vendor placing, but a vendor rights.

The market loved it and SDI's shares shot up 83p to 583p on news of its acquisition of Minneapolis software company Warrington for up to \$30 million (£23 million) and a two-for-five tender and cash rights to raise £19 million and £8.2 million respectively.

A vendor rights, as opposed to vendor placing, allows existing shareholders to apply for shares. If they do not want to take up their allocation, they can sell their right to the shares. With a rights price of 435p, shareholders are showing a 148p profit on the day.

If SDI's share price had fallen there would have been no benefit and the ¼ per cent extra underwriting commission would have made the exercise more costly.

A vendor rights has three obvious advantages to the company. The discount is smaller - only 9 per cent in SDI's case against an average rights discount of 20 per cent; the money comes in straight away with no three week gap; and there are no goodwill problems.

New accounting rules stipulate that in a cash takeover the difference between the asset price and price paid must go into the balance sheet as goodwill, but not in a share takeover.

Montagu has also protected himself from a further slide in the pound by taking out call options to cover its \$21 million exposure on the shares it is

buying back from Warrington. Warrington is clearly a good buy for the fast-growing SDI. It supplies more than all of the largest 200 banks in the US with its Bolt (board on-line trading) system and will provide SDI with a large and high quality customer base.

SDI, which was floated at 105p per share in November 1982, estimates its 1984 pretax profits at £2.9 million, a 45 per cent increase on 1983. At 583p, the yield is a hungry 0.5 per cent.

It is easy to forget some times that this country still has traditional shipping lines. The question is, for how much longer? Yesterday's refinancing package and rights issue from Lyle Shipping has bought it some breathing space, but it is far from being the key to lasting prosperity.

Even after the injection of £6.7 million of new money from the rights issue the company will still be highly geared and will only a substantial upturn in trading will allow progress to be made on reducing the debt burden.

The harsh realities of the marketplace indicate, however, that this improvement may still be some way off. While there has been a slow increase in demand there is still substantial overcapacity.

With sentiment therefore stacked very much against the shipping sector Lyle is fortunate that it has secured this refinancing package which will ensure that it can meet its working capital requirements until at least the end of next year.

Lyle, however, must derive

some modest encouragement from the high proportion of new institutions, 40 per cent, which have agreed to underwrite the rights issue.

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Traded options highlights

Lourde dominated a subdued traded options market yesterday, accounting for 2,118 of the total 9,279 contracts traded. Mr "Tay" Rowland's group has received plenty of attention in recent days on the LTO floor, in anticipation of profit figures

showing £135 million profits for last year.

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THIS DOCUMENT IS IMPORTANT AND REQUIRES YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. If you are in any doubt about the action to be taken you should consult your stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant or other professional adviser immediately. Expressions used in this document, shall, unless the context requires otherwise, bear the same meaning as in the Tender Offer Document dated 22nd January, 1985 from Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited.

THE BRITISH LAND COMPANY PIC TENDER OFFER to acquire up to 9,023,337 Limited Voting Ordinary shares in STYLO PLC

MORGAN GRENFELL & CO. LIMITED
(Registered in England No. 315841)

Registered Office:
23 Great Winchester Street,
London EC2P 2AX
30th January, 1985

To all Limited Voting Ordinary shareholders of Stylo PLC and, for information only, to Stylo Management shareholders.

Dear Sir or Madam,

On 22nd January, 1985 the Board of British Land announced that it was making an offer to acquire by tender up to a maximum of 9,023,337 Limited Voting Ordinary shares in Stylo, representing, together with British Land's existing holding of Stylo Ordinary shares, 29.99 per cent. of the voting rights and 50.90 per cent. of the issued share capital of Stylo.

STYLO ORDINARY SHAREHOLDERS ARE REMINDED THAT THE TENDER OFFER CLOSES AT 3.00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY, 1985 AND CANNOT BE INCREASED OR EXTENDED.

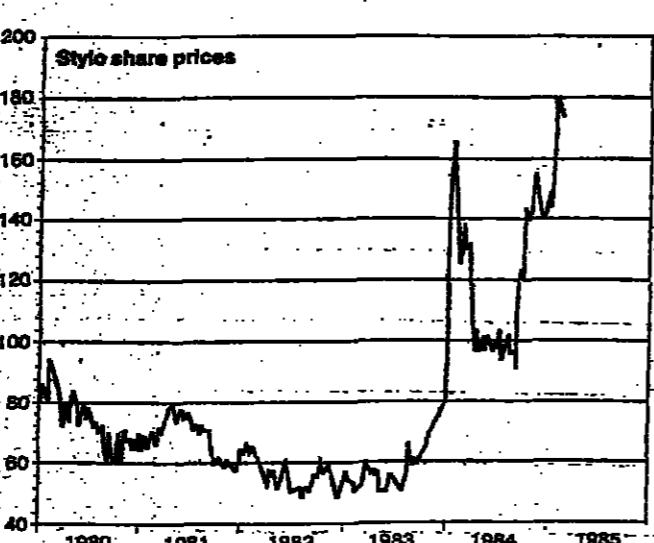
Forms of Tender, duly completed in accordance with the instructions therein, must be received by British Land's registrars, Hill Samuel Registrars Limited, 6 Greenock Place, London SW1P 1PL by this time.

Shareholders who wish to tender all or part of their holding of Stylo Ordinary shares and to receive New British Land shares (the "Share Alternative") must deliver a duly completed Form of Tender together with share certificate(s) and/or document(s) of title, to Hill Samuel Registrars Limited by 3.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 5th February, 1985. British Land reserves the right to treat tenders for the Share Alternative (but not the Cash Alternative) as valid even though not complete in all respects or not accompanied by the relevant share certificate(s) and/or other document(s) of title. If share certificate(s) or other document(s) of title have been issued but are not immediately available they should be forwarded to Hill Samuel Registrars Limited as soon as practicable; the Form of Tender will be valid, but settlement will not be made until fourteen days after Hill Samuel Registrars Limited have received the share certificate(s) and/or other document(s) of title. Where share certificate(s) and/or other document(s) of title have not been received as a result of a recent purchase, shareholders are advised to obtain a Sponon or registrar's certification on the Form of Tender. If shareholders are in any doubt as to what to do they should immediately consult the agent through whom they purchased their Stylo Ordinary shares.

Shareholders who wish to tender all or part of their holding of Stylo Ordinary shares and to receive cash (the "Cash Alternative") should note that Hill Samuel Registrars Limited must receive the duly completed Form of Tender together with the share certificate(s) and/or other document(s) of title or Form of Tender certified by Sponon or Stylo's registrars by the close of the Tender Offer.

STYLO ORDINARY SHAREHOLDERS SHOULD NOTE THAT THE TENDER OFFER IS CONDITIONAL UPON TENDERS BEING RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF MORE THAN 8,000,000 STYLO ORDINARY SHARES.

Set out below is a graph showing the price movement of Stylo Ordinary shares over the last five years based on the middle market quotation at the close of business on the first business day of each week.



The maximum value of the Share Alternative under the Tender Offer is 185p and that of the Cash Alternative is 185p (the former being based on the middle market quotation for British Land shares of 137p at the close of business on 28th January, 1985 derived The Stock Exchange Daily Official List). On 28th January, 1985, the price of Stylo Ordinary shares was 172p, which compares with a price of 188p on 21st January, 1985, the day before the Tender Offer was announced (in each case based on the middle market quotation at the close of business derived from The Stock Exchange Daily Official List) and the price of 88p paid by British Land on 10th September, 1984, when it bought 795,000 Stylo Ordinary shares.

STYLO ORDINARY SHAREHOLDERS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO CONSULT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS IMMEDIATELY AS TO THE MERITS OF THE TENDER OFFER.

Yours faithfully,
for MORGAN GRENFELL & CO. LIMITED
D. J. EWART
Director

Further copies of the Form of Tender may be obtained from and any enquiries should be made to:-

Hill Samuel Registrars Limited,
6 Greenock Place,
London SW1P 1PL
01-828 4321

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited,
New Issue Department,
21 Austin Friars,
London EC2N 2HB,
01-588 4545 ext. 2294

L. Messel & Co.,
P.O. Box 521,
1 Finsbury Avenue,
London EC2M 2QE,
01-377 0123 ext. 4493

The Directors of British Land are the persons responsible for the information contained in this document. To the best of their knowledge and belief of the Directors (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in this document is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information. The Directors accept responsibility accordingly.

Drugs report may be inadequate

By Pat Butcher

The British Amateur Athletic Board working party on drug abuse will be accused of doing only half the job if their report, which goes to executive committee next week, maintains that random drug testing should be done only on athletes prepared to volunteer for a register.

Nigel Cooper, the board secretary, whose working party sent their final draft to the lawyers yesterday, feels that an administration may be on dangerous ground if they demand that all British athletes should be open to testing outside competition. Mr Cooper feels that the only sanction they can apply would be in the event of an international athlete failing to "volunteer", when they would not be considered for team selection.

Peter Coni, the chairman of the world rowing championships, and one of the instruments in the national level, without fear of Amateur Rowing Association be-

coming the first sports body in Britain, if not the world, to set up random testing two years ago, said the board decision was absolutely ridiculous. It makes one suspect that they know large numbers of people are on the stuff. "Any carman under ARA rules is liable to be dope tested at any time."

There is sufficient suspicion of athletes at club level experimenting with drugs to prompt the suggestion that only internationals or potential internationals will be invited to volunteer for the register.

There is the strong possibility that a junior athlete could become sufficiently good during a drugs boosted training period, and come off the drug sufficiently in advance of a competition where he or she would break through to international level, without fear of detection.

Budd's wish granted

Zola Budd has been given the race she wanted for her indoor international debut at Coxford tomorrow night. She was named yesterday for the 3,000 metres in Britain's match against West Germany.

Miss Budd, aged 18, set a UK all-comers record by winning the national 1,500 metres title last Saturday, her first race indoors, but she expressed a wish to run the 3,000 metres against the West Germans.

Linsey Macdonald, aged 20, makes her international comeback in the 400 metres after more than two years absence from the sport through shin injuries. Miss Macdonald was an Olympic finalist over 400 metres in 1980.

WOMEN: 800m: H. Oates, P. Baker; 2000m: C. Smart, J. Harrison; 3000m: G. Macdonald, J. Whithurst; 4000m: J. Finch, K. McDermott; 5000m: V. Murray, L. Macdonald; 6000m: Z. Budd, S. Carter; 800m: S. Simpson; 1000m: J. West, 4 x 2000m: K. Cook, J. Baptista, S. Martin, H. Macdonald; 1500m: J. Hagger, M. Berkeley; 2000m: J. Oates, M. Angus.

Student challenge

Rob Harrison and Linsey Macdonald will take part in the British students cross-country championships a Guildford tomorrow. Other competitors will include the Olympic marathon runner, Hugh Jones.

HOCKEY

England ring the changes

By Joyce Whitehead

England have recalled Margaret Souvay (Lancashire) and Julie Barnister (Cheshire) for this season's matches against Wales, Scotland, Ireland and West Germany, which will be followed by a tour of Australia.

The selectors deliberated longer than usual after the conclusion of last weekend's territorial matches, which served as the trials. They have also promoted three players from last year's B team, Mary Cheatham and Sue Howell (both Leicestershire), and Caroline Rule (Berkshire). The Leicestershire pair are the only uncapped players and Miss Cheatham is now a double first this season, having also been selected for the indoor team.

To bring the England squad up to 16, five more players will be included following the international B teams tournament at Old Trafford on February 22 and 23. The England B squad has seven new caps, Parker (Middlesex), Wilce (Suffolk), Brimble (Gloucestershire), Pearson (Avon), Atkins (Sheffield League).

These 30 players have a three-day practice weekend at Bisham Abbey starting today.

ENGLAND: I. Carr (Lancashire), J. Barnister (Cheshire), K. Brown (Berkshire), M. Cheatham (Lancashire), J. Cook (Suffolk), V. Dixon (Gloucestershire), K. Gordon (Leicestershire), S. Howley (Worcestershire), S. Howell (Leicestershire), C. Rule (Berkshire), M. Souvay (Lancashire).

BOXING



Honeyghan: keeping busy

Honeyghan up to top billing

By Srikanth Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Mike Barrett, whose Albert Hall show seemed in jeopardy when he lost his top of the bill contest, the British light-middleweight, to a close friendship with Jimmy Cable and Prince Rodney, because of a contractual dispute, has called in Lloyd Honeyghan, the European welterweight champion, to save the day. Honeyghan will be meeting Mauricio Brava, of Venezuela.

Barrett had hoped to bring over Pablo Diaz, the world No. 8, and so set Honeyghan on a world title course straightaway but, according to Barrett, Diaz, of the Dominican Republic, was unable to leave the United States in case of having difficulties getting back to the country. Brava is regarded but a fair opponent all the same, having lost only two of his 22 bouts. He was well thought of in the days when Sugar Ray Leonard was thinking of retiring.

Honeyghan in the meantime is not going to have much chance to sit back and enjoy the show of being European champion. The European Boxing Union have ordered him to defend against Gilles Elbilta, of France. Contracts must be signed by March 24, or else the contest will go to purse offers. A match between Honeyghan and Sylvester Nitte, the Commonwealth champion, would be a backward step, Barrett said.

Another European champion, from the Terry Lawless stable, Charlie Magri, has decided to give up his title because the EBU have told him to defend against Franco Cerchi, of Italy, in February. Magri challenges the World Boxing Council champion, Sot Chitalada, of Thailand, on February 20. Lawless said: "Charlie has relinquished his title, but only after the world title fight had been booked. He has signed signatures obtained and contracts exchanged." Should Magri not win the world title he could still box for the European title for he would be regarded as the No 1 challenger.

BADMINTON

Nielsen's post
Heather Nielsen, the former All-England singles champion, is to take over as caretaker manager of the England badminton team in April. She replaces Ciro Cinghio, who is taking up a post with the International Badminton Federation.

VOLLEYBALL

Volvo crash in final set
By Paul Harrison
The steel that Murray International Metals reserve for more important matches showed through in Scotland's Royal Bank League last weekend. MIM's 3-2 defeat of Volvo Trucks, their closest rivals, makes them favourites to retain the title for the seventh season in a row. Volvo came back from being two sets down, only to lose the final set 15-12 for their first defeat of the season.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
Fourth division
Colchester v Northampton
Crewe v Hartlepool
Exeter v Southend
Hull City v Scunthorpe
Stockport v Wrexham
RUGBY UNION
IRISH LEAGUE: Glentworth v Lark. (7.15)
CULM MATCHES: Exeter v Exeter Park (7.15); Bristol v Gloucester (7.15); Esher v Camberley (7.30); Messing v North (7.30); Newbridge v Pontypool (7.30).
OTHER SPORT
SHOCKER: Benson and Hedges Masters tournament (At Wembley Conference Centre).
TENNIS: Men's singles tournament (at Bournemouth).

The Scottish Volleyball Association have also suffered a disappointment at the hands of the Danes. The SVA applied to enter the men's Spring Cup in Denmark in early April, but were turned down because their application was too late.

In England three teams are battling for the British League first division title Speedwell Rucanor, Team Mizuno, and Capital City Spikers. Speedwell, who had to stay behind on the M4, who had to stay

Brave George is weighted to stage Sandown follow-up

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)
Brave George is expected to win his name again by winning the Park Handicap at Sandown Park today.



Pipe-maker: Carado (left), first leg of a Lingfield Park double for Martin Pipe, comes to tackle Majuba Road in the first division of the novice hurdle. (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Pipe making his own fortune

By John Karter
Martin Pipe was born the son of a West County bookmaker, but no one could accuse him of having a success in racing handed to him in a silver satchel.

Treble gives Winter the perfect welcome

Fred Winter returned from holiday in Australia last night to the welcome news of a Towcester treble with Tamingo, Admiral's Cup and Allen Lad.

Richard Dunwoody was another rider to strike twice yesterday. And the victories were given a special pliancy for the young man whom many regard as the best of the jockeys' crew.

Scotland's front row deprived of Milne

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent
The preparations of neither host country went entirely to plan yesterday as England and Scotland prepared for the visit tomorrow of France and Ireland respectively.

Meanwhile, England worked at St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill, yesterday with the irrepressible Davies in their ranks. It had to be kept the Wasps stand-off half out of the national squad this season.

SANDOWN PARK

GOING: soft
Toto double: 2.30, 3.35. Treble: 2.0, 3.5, 4.5.
1.0 FERRARI NOVICE HURDLE (Div 1: £1,598; 2m) (21 runners)

Lingfield results

Going: Heavy
1.15 (2m 4f) ch. 1. BELFRAGE LAD R (Dunwoody, 2) 11.5. 2.15 (2m 4f) ch. 1. BELFRAGE LAD R (Dunwoody, 2) 11.5.

Towcester

Going: soft
1.30 (2m 4f) 1. TAMINGO (De Haan, 11-4). 2. ADMIRAL'S CUP (De Haan, 11-4).

Sandown selections

1.0 Hunter Bay. 2.0 BRAVE GEORGE (naps). 2.30 Upham Kelly. 3.5 Henry Kissinger. 3.35 Grindly Gull. 4.5 Kingwick. By Michael Seely.

WILFRED JOHNSTONE HUNTER CHASE

£1,236; 2m 4f 68yd (9)
402 11/10/10 FURTHER THOUGHT (Mrs Vanden Bergh) Mrs V Bergh 10-10-9

Richard Dunwoody: double at Lingfield Park

2.45 (2m 4f) 1. SILVER BALD (P Leach, 2) 11.5. 2. BARRON LAD (R Arnold, 9-4). 3. CANTERBURY (P Leach, 2) 11.5.

2.0 PARK HANDICAP CHASE

£2,418; 2m 18yd (7)
202 11/10/10 BRAVE GEORGE (De Haan) P De Haan 11-10-9

3.5 WILFRED JOHNSTONE HUNTER CHASE

£1,236; 2m 4f 68yd (9)
402 11/10/10 FURTHER THOUGHT (Mrs Vanden Bergh) Mrs V Bergh 10-10-9

Course specialists

SANDOWN
TRAINERS: F Walford 20 winners from 80 runners, 25.0%; M Gifford 18 winners from 25, 24.0%; G Gifford 18 winners from 25, 24.0%.

2.30 FARMVILLE NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE

£2,771; 3m 118yd (9)
302 09/22/10 EMPEROR CHARLES (De Haan) P De Haan 11-10-9

3.5 WILFRED JOHNSTONE HUNTER CHASE

£1,236; 2m 4f 68yd (9)
402 11/10/10 FURTHER THOUGHT (Mrs Vanden Bergh) Mrs V Bergh 10-10-9

Newton Abbot selections

1.45 Newcastle. 2.15 Pomposity. 2.45 Gold Tycoon. 3.15 Crossway. 3.45 Royston. 4.15 Record Red.

KELSO

GOING: soft (chase going: heavy hurdles)
1.0 ANCRUM NOVICE CHASE (Div 1: £751; 3m) (11 runners)

2.30 MALDEN TIMBER NOVICE HURDLE

£1,161; 2m (12)
2 0/0/0 ABSEY BOY T Barnes 5-11-0

Newton Abbot

GOING: heavy
1.45 DARRACOME NOVICE HURDLE (Div 1: £284; 2m 150yd) (16 runners)

1.0 ANCRUM NOVICE CHASE

£751; 3m (11)
1 1/1/2 JOCKARRE (D) 10/Thompson 9-12-9

3.90 COLDSTREAM NOVICE HURDLE

£4-y-o: £684; 2m (9)
2 0/0/0 ABSEY BOY T Barnes 5-11-0

3.5 WOLBOROUGH HANDICAP CHASE

£2,787; 3m 2m 100yd (16)
3 11/2 ROYSTON (CD) J Chan 5-11-7

2.0 ANCRUM NOVICE CHASE

£747; 3m (10)
2 0/0/0 ABSEY BOY T Barnes 5-11-0

4.0 LADBROKES LAST-RACE HANDICAP CHASE

£1,228; 2m 6f (9)
1 1/1/1 BANGOR W A De Haan 5-11-7

4.15 DARRACOME NOVICE HURDLE

£2,878; 2m 150yd (16)
1 4/4/4 STARD EASY (C) Warden 5-11-10

Delay in Norster's return gives Waters hope

By Gerald Davies
David Waters, from Newport, looks likely to alter all to win his first cap for Wales when he makes his debut against the French on Saturday.

Greenway leads charge for combined forces

By Gordon Allan
In the first year of their amalgamation Charing Cross/Westminster reached the semi-final round of the Hospitals' Cup when they beat St Bartholomew's by a penalty at Chislehurst yesterday.

London U-18s rearrange Midlands date

The London Schools 18 group against the Midlands, which was due to be played last weekend, has been rearranged for this Sunday at Mill Hill. The freeze-up had prevented the match from going ahead.

St Bartholomew's 3 Charing Cross/Westminster 29

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Newton Abbot selections

1.45 Newcastle. 2.15 Pomposity. 2.45 Gold Tycoon. 3.15 Crossway. 3.45 Royston. 4.15 Record Red.

CRICKET: INSPIRED PLAY TAKES AZHARUDDIN TO WITHIN TWO RUNS OF RECORD-BREAKING CENTURY

Genius poised on the brink

From John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent Kanpur

Another marvellously accomplished innings by Azharuddin, backed up by an adventurous one from Srikranth, gave India a useful start to the fifth Test match here yesterday. At one time, when the two of them were in full cry together, it looked like being quite a lot better, but England closed ranks when Srikranth was out, so that 165 for one after 46 overs had become only 228 for three after 80 at the close. By then Azharuddin was 98 not out and on the brink of unique distinction: no one has ever scored a century in each of his first three Test matches.

The height of Greg Chappell, as lissom as Mushtaq Ali, with the squash player's eye of Amir Bey, the footwork of Fred Astaire, an artist's touch and high cheek bones - Mohammad Azharuddin is what in the pub at home they call "something else". Yesterday, promoted for the first time to No. 3, he came in when the ball was still new, Gavaskar having failed again.

Soon he was playing a succession of beautiful strokes, one in particular, off Pocock, having a touch of sheer genius about it. The ball was not short, but with Pocock bowling without a slip Azharuddin feathered it almost out of Dowton's gloves, so fine that it was barely wide of the stumps when it crossed the boundary. That was not batting so much as inspiration.

Srikranth plays more with the effrontery of a bandit. He and Azharuddin added 150 for India's second wicket in 38 overs, so entertainingly that like the stand between Azharuddin and Amarnath in Madras, it would never have passed as a clip from the average Indian Test match. Srikranth gave one firm but very catchable chance to Cowans at mid-off in Pocock's first over when he was 16. Having dislocated a finger a week ago Cowans, who made several grabs at it, may have been a trifle apprehensive when it came to the England batsman. On the ground, England as if for the first half of the day their bowling was below its best, the batting had a lot to do with that. Edmonds, for the whole time, could hardly be faulted. He played a vital steady role. Pocock had only nine overs at a cost of 46 runs. Foster having rather missed his chance with a first new ball was doing his stuff by the end. The crowd, with patchwork squares of police khaki dotted among them, reached 25,000, and the weather was perfect.

When Gowar came out for



Something special: Azharuddin, exhibiting another stroke in his repertoire

the toss, the ground still glistening with dew, Gavaskar was already in the middle in easiest conversation with two of the Indian selectors, Chandu Borde Manumant Singh. Gowar was kept waiting for a good five minutes before the three Indians settled on their side. It was no ordinary scene. In the end India, although needing to win the match to level the Test match, Srikranth gave one firm but very catchable chance to Cowans at mid-off in Pocock's first over when he was 16. Having dislocated a finger a week ago Cowans, who made several grabs at it, may have been a trifle apprehensive when it came to the England batsman.

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and when Pocock came on after 156 for two, Azharuddin 77. England were working their way into the game. At 209, Cowans bowled Amarnath with a real trimmer. Azharuddin was then 90, there was an hour left for play, ample time, if he stayed, in which to reach his hundred. But England had sealed off some of his favourite avenues by now.

Fine saves cut off forcing strokes, and India's young hero was left at the end to sweat it out overnight. At both Calcutta and Madras his hundreds were chanceless, just like his innings yesterday.

than the first. At tea India were 156 for two, Azharuddin 77. England were working their way into the game. At 209, Cowans bowled Amarnath with a real trimmer. Azharuddin was then 90, there was an hour left for play, ample time, if he stayed, in which to reach his hundred. But England had sealed off some of his favourite avenues by now. Fine saves cut off forcing strokes, and India's young hero was left at the end to sweat it out overnight. At both Calcutta and Madras his hundreds were chanceless, just like his innings yesterday.

Two half-chances came off successive balls from Edmonds, both given by Srikranth. First, Edmonds, diving to his right at wide mid-on, got a hand to a drive; then Cowar, tumbling at silly point, could just have scooped him up. Shortly after drinks Srikranth off drove Pocock strikingly for four and next ball for six, each time from down the pitch. Just afterwards he followed a ball from Foster that was leaving him and fell to a dramatic catch by Dowton. With Azharuddin quietening down, the second hour of the afternoon brought 49 fewer runs

England women toss away victory

Melbourne (AP) - A startling - batting collapse cost England victory in the first women's one-day international against Australia yesterday. Australia, who scored 160 for six, won by six runs after snatching up England's last seven wickets for 26.

England appeared to be coasting at 135 for three, and at 154 for four, before they collapsed. But a great bowling spell by Lyn Fullston, who claimed two wickets and also ran out one-taller, rescued the game for Australia.

Jan Sargin and Carole Hodges set England along what appeared to be a winning path when they added 100 for the first wicket. Britton, who was named player of the international series, hit 73 before she was well caught by Lindsay Keeler.

At the close the Sri Lankans were 192 for eight, having lost a target of 202 for victory in 20 overs. The match ended in a draw. The Colts captain, Rob Garrett had set the scene for an exciting finish by declaring their second innings at 166 for five, in response to a first innings declaration by Mendis at 150 for seven.

Becker's best too much for Smid

Memphis (AP) - Boris Becker of West Germany served a 12-ace on Wednesday as he made short work of the No. 3 seed, Andrei Smid of the U.S. national indoor tennis tournament. Becker, aged 22, finished with three consecutive aces in win.

He's a winner, Becker, who thinks it's a good sign that he's in his life. He's a winner, Becker, who thinks it's a good sign that he's in his life. He's a winner, Becker, who thinks it's a good sign that he's in his life.

The top seeds Jimmy Connors, beat Jan Gunnarsson, 6-3, 6-4. The defending champion, Ivan Lendl, beat the defending champion, Ivan Lendl, 6-3, 6-4.

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Bates through to final

Jersey Bates, 64, British, who started yesterday to beat Mats Wilander, for Copenhagen, 6-3, 6-4, in the semi-finals of the ATP's men's satellite tournament at Wimbledon, Bramhall, he will play Peter Leeson, 27, of England, in the final this morning.

Christensen, aged 19, did much to destroy his own game with several outbursts, but Bates, who played for his quiet and steady, was the victor in a match in which he had to lose his concentration.

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Winkelhock leads RAM

The West German driver, Manfred Winkelhock, has been confirmed as the new leader of the RAM grand prix team. Their latest car, the RAM 10, was unveiled yesterday and is due to begin its trials at Silverstone today.

Winkelhock's driving partner will be the Frenchman, Philippe Alliot, who made his Formula One debut with John Macdonald's RAM team last season.

Designed by Gustav Brunner, who joined RAM last October, the new car - like the new Brabham Lola - is estimated to cost £1.5 million.

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Chatsworth event

Chatsworth, the home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, is to host a new three-day event, the Chatsworth Horse Trials, from October 4-6. (Jenny Jones reports.) Following the loss of the popular Wythe working party in Whitby, a three-day party will be held at Chatsworth.

Chatsworth which has run a one-day event since 1956, proved to have the best facilities. The 3,000-acre estate in Derbyshire offers the necessary amount of flat ground for the dressage and show jumping phases while the surrounding hills and woodland give plenty of scope for cross-country.

This keeps the number of three-day events in England at six. The others are at Bramham, Osberton, Haddington, Burghley and Windsor.

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Car Buyer's Guide

Jaguar/Daimler advertisement featuring the Jaguar XJS HE. Text includes 'SPECIALISING IN THE FINEST CARS' and lists various models and prices.

Rolls-Royce advertisement for the Silver Shadow II. Text includes 'IT'S EXPENSIVE ENOUGH KEEPING A ROLLS-ROYCE' and '1979 ROLLS-ROYCE Silver Shadow II'.

BMW advertisement for the Cooper Bishopgate. Text includes 'BMW IN THE CITY OF LONDON' and 'Monday - Friday 8.45 - 6.30'.

BMW advertisement for the BMW 635 CSi. Text includes 'BMW 635 CSi' and 'Paddockwood (089283) 4656'.

Rydale-Birmingham advertisement for BMW Approved Cars. Text includes '021-552 2825' and '525i A reg. 24,800 miles only'.

General advertisement for Motor Brokers Limited. Text includes 'SAVE up to £3,500 ON YOUR NEW CAR' and '0792-963348'.

William Loughran advertisement for used cars. Text includes '07721 613114 or 613213' and lists various car models.

Loxleys of Bromley advertisement for Jaguar XJS HE. Text includes '01-464 3388' and 'JAGUAR XJS HE'.

Jaguar advertisement for the Jaguar XJS HE. Text includes '01-542 3495 evgs only' and 'JAGUAR XJS HE'.

Lancia advertisement for the Lancia H.P. advertisement. Text includes 'LANCIA H.P.' and '01-456 1111'.

BMW advertisement for the BMW 728i. Text includes 'BMW 728i' and '01-377 8811'.

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Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

High cost of borrowing casts gloom

The decision to increase bank lending rates has cast a gloomy shadow over an already concerned motor industry. Sales forecasts for 1985 were beginning to look distinctly optimistic before this new blow.

Hurriedly convened meetings of sales executives report that 1985 car sales will be down by at least 100,000 on last year's 1,750,000. Some even suggest as low as 1,600,000. A senior sales executive with one of the car manufacturers said: "If you think last year's discount battle was rough, get ready for an even bloodier one this year. This is the crucial year when the established pecking order of the last 15 years could be upset and before that happens there will be a lot of blood-letting. There is already surplus capacity in Europe for well over two million cars a year yet people are still adding further capacity."

The company with the most at stake is the British market leader Ford. In the last three years its share has slipped from more than 30 per cent to 27.8 per cent last year despite massive factory support with incentive bonuses for dealers that enabled them to sell Sierras in particular at more than £1,000 below recommended list prices.

That level of support is costing Ford an arm and a leg. But as yet there are no signs that Detroit is any less determined to defend its leadership here than when it first joined the present battle with General Motors in 1982. In addition to the financial advantages of leadership there is a less publicized emotive issue.

Britain is the one country in the world where Ford has consistently rubbed-GM's nose in the dirt. And when you have had to play second fiddle to a hated rival as long as Ford has to GM in America the British position has been a comforting face-saver.

But for how long? Four years ago GM's share was only 8 per cent. Last year it doubled to more than 16 per cent. This year Mr John Fleming, chairman of GM's Vauxhall subsidiary, has his sights set on overhauling BL who finished 1984 down from a

little more than 18 per cent in 1983 to 17.8.

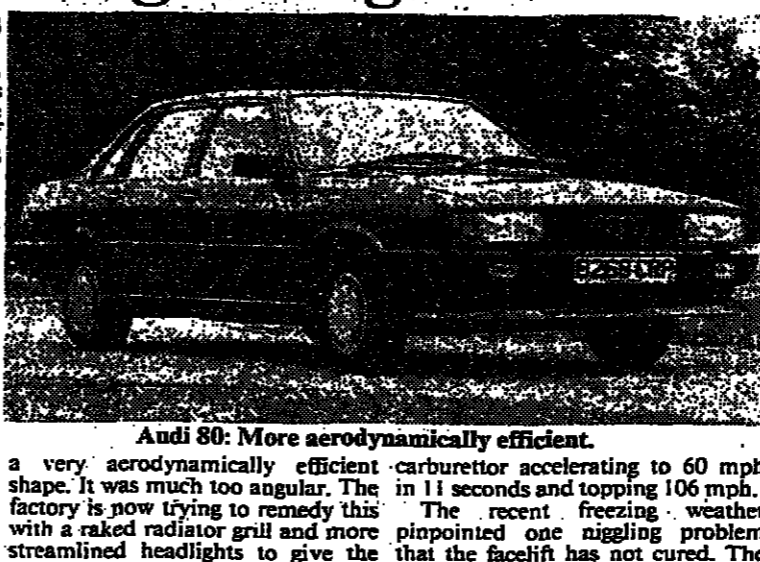
Such a rapid turnaround by a company that was once regarded as a bit of a joke in the car trade came after two far-reaching changes of strategy by GM. It stopped designing and building British cars in Britain and began substituting cars designed by and imported from its more successful German arm Opel.

Its factories at Luton and Ellesmere Port were progressively switched to assembling German cars with components imported from Australia. Despite persistent pressure from the British Government to increase the UK content of the cars it sells here, GM imported more built-up cars last year than in 1983 - more than 57 per cent of its British sales compared with 53 per cent.

The switch in emphasis to Opel cars was not of itself sufficient to win so many British converts. The success of the front-wheel driver Cavalier (Opel Ansacon) took everyone by surprise. It rapidly became the outstanding car of the 1980s. Backed by the Spanish made Nova (Opel Corsa) supermini and the more recent Astra replacement, GM at last has a model line-up in Britain that is worth factory support to the limit.

The French in particular have become increasingly worried by GM's growth in Europe and they are positively paranoid about the inroads it is making into the French market.

A senior Renault executive told me: "We always dreaded the day when GM would have the car line-up for Europe that was worth supporting with all their obvious muscle. Well they have it now as you in Britain are discovering, and they will not stop until they are market leader."



Audi 80: More aerodynamically efficient.

The Audi 80 is more aerodynamically efficient than most cars on the road. Its coefficient of drag is 0.30, a very aerodynamically efficient shape. It was much too angular. The factory is now trying to remedy this with a raked radiator grille and more streamlined headlights to give the car a better "entry" into the wind and speed wasting air barrier and a raised tail for a cleaner exit.

It now looks like a smaller edition of the Audi 100 but still has a long way to go before it is as slick through the air as its very efficient big brother. VW claim a drag coefficient of 0.38 for the 80 compared with the 100's remarkable 0.30.

While raising the tail to lower wind resistance the designers took advantage of the need for new press tooling to extend the boot lid down to bumper height for easier loading: a development that is rapidly becoming the norm and brings welcome relief to back sufferers.

Vital Statistics
Model: Audi 80GL
Price: £8,120
Engine: 1781cc four-cylinder
Performance: 0-60mph 11 seconds, maximum speed 108mph. Official consumption: Urban, 32.1mpg; 56mpg, 50.4mpg; 75mph, 37.7mpg.
Length: 14.4 ft
Insurance: Group 5.

Inside, the new 80 has a restyled dashboard and instrument panel that is a model of clarity at a time when too many carmakers are being carried away by space-age digit electronics.

But the development that I hope will soon be standard on every car is central locking. At present the high cost of this fitting restricts it to the more expensive versions. It is, however, standard on all Audi 80s.

The 80 has always been a rewarding car to drive and the latest model continues the sequence. It feels very stable at high speed when put under the whip on fast cross-country runs. Twisting short cuts to avoid traffic always seems to have a reassuring amount of rubber in contact with the road surface.

The 80GL on test had the 1.8 litre 90bhp engine that can push past 112bhp in the fuel-injected version that seen in the 80 Sport. But it is still a pretty smart performer with the

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OPEL MANTA GTE	£2,436
GRANADA 2.3i GHA 5-Dr	£10,441

Contact your local agent for quotation. Most models available.

ASTRA 1.3 Diesel	£2,296
ASTRA 1.6 Diesel	£2,448
ASTRA GTE 1800i 3-Dr	£2,192
ALDO TURBO DIESEL 1800	£2,436
OPEL MANTA GTE	£2,436
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British motorists can now buy the 1985 model featuring a number of welcome changes. The 80 was never

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Sept '82. F.S.H. Silver, blue interior, A.M.G. conversion. Curtains, video, T.V., 11,000 miles. 230 SE 3.0A engine, 200hp, air conditioning, drinks cabinet, picnic tables, Pioneer stereo system. Plus many extras.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and IN MEMORIAM. A large section of the page containing various notices.

DEATHS. A section listing various deaths and funeral arrangements.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS. A section listing travel agencies and holiday packages.

PERSONAL COLUMNS. A section containing various personal notices and advertisements.

WINTER SPORTS. A section listing ski resorts and winter holiday packages.

RENTALS. A section listing various rental properties and services.

SERVICES APARTMENTS. A section listing serviced apartments and short-term rentals.

PROPERTY. A section listing various real estate listings and services.

BIRTHS. A section listing various birth announcements.

FUNERALS. A section listing funeral services and arrangements.

DISCOUNT FARES. A section listing discounted travel fares.

WANTED. A section listing various wanted notices.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS. A section listing musical instruments for sale.

WINTER SPORTS. A section listing winter sports and holiday packages.

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February 14th. Cacharel will send your love a gift if you send your love in The Times. Place a personal message in The Times on February 14th, and your Valentine will get more than just the message...

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1 News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletins. Breakfast Time with Selina Scott and Nick Ross. News from Debbie Rice 8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30. Sport at 6.40 and 7.40. Regional news, weather and traffic at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27. Plus a review of the morning newspapers. Lynn Faulds Wood's costume report. Nina Smith with the latest pop music news. Glynis Christie's week-end shopping advice. Glynis Warrup's reviews of the week. Alan Titchmarsh's gardening advice. The guest is Edward Fox.

TV-am 6.15 Good Morning Britain. Presented by Anna Diamond and Alan Titchmarsh. News of the day. 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30. Sport at 6.40 and 7.40. Regional news, weather and traffic at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27. Plus a review of the morning newspapers. Lynn Faulds Wood's costume report. Nina Smith with the latest pop music news. Glynis Christie's week-end shopping advice. Glynis Warrup's reviews of the week. Alan Titchmarsh's gardening advice. The guest is Edward Fox.

TV LONDON 9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: the natural history of familiar creatures. 9.42 The guest is Chris. 10.09 A mother and her daughter buy a pet. 10.26 The children of a north German school. 10.48 Propositional calculus. 11.08 How animals wash themselves. 11.22 Poetry with Roger McGough. 11.39 Life of Chinese workers near the Mongolian border. 12.00 News at One. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 Film: Mask of the Pharaoh (1958) starring Antonia Dore. 1.45 The first of a series of plays. 2.00 News at Two. 2.30 Film: The Day After Tomorrow. 3.00 News at Three. 3.30 Film: The Day After Tomorrow. 4.00 News at Four. 4.30 Film: The Day After Tomorrow. 5.00 News at Five. 5.30 Film: The Day After Tomorrow. 6.00 News at Six. 6.30 Film: The Day After Tomorrow. 7.00 News at Seven. 7.30 Film: The Day After Tomorrow. 8.00 News at Eight. 8.30 Film: The Day After Tomorrow. 9.00 News at Nine. 9.30 Film: The Day After Tomorrow. 10.00 News at Ten. 10.30 Film: The Day After Tomorrow. 11.00 News at Eleven. 11.30 Film: The Day After Tomorrow. 12.00 News at Midnight.

BBC 2 9.00 Caelex. 9.30 Daytime on Two: how atoms join together to make molecules. 9.52 Adventure at a fairground. 10.15 Maths: half-turn symmetry. 10.38 Creatures that live in the upper layers of the soil. 11.00 Children from Yorkshire use a model to portray a character from fiction. 11.22 By canal, railway and motor across the Pennines. 11.44 City and Guilds foundation courses. 12.05 The abilities of microcomputers. 12.30 Safety first advice for the young motorcyclist. 12.55 David Bellamy examines the woodlands of Britain. 1.20 Thinking skills in business and organisations. 1.38 Safety first. 2.00 To 2.30 Three books about survivors. 3.00 Caelex. 3.45 International Snooker. The third quarter-final of the Benson and Hedges Masters. 4.00 News at One. 4.30 News at Two. 5.00 News at Three. 5.30 News at Four. 6.00 News at Five. 6.30 News at Six. 7.00 News at Seven. 7.30 News at Eight. 8.00 News at Nine. 8.30 News at Ten. 9.00 News at Eleven. 9.30 News at Midnight.

CHANNEL 4 2.30 Master Bridge. The third round of the individual bridge tournament in which competitors change partners after each round. 3.00 The Year of the French. Part three of the drama serial and the French invading force have routed the local forces of Ireland. They, in turn, rush to join the British forces in an effort to destroy the occupying British Army. 4.00 Built in Britain. The third programme in the series on Britain's humble architectural heritage. 4.30 Countdown. Anagrams and mental arithmetic competition. 5.00 The Addams Family. The visit of a Spanish friend and his daughter, old friends of Gomez, bring an unexpected turn when the daughter, thinking that Morticia is Gomez's sister and not his wife, reveals that she has been promised in marriage to a young man. 5.30 The Tube, presented by Joella Holland and Paula Yates. The guests include The Playn Jays, Durst Column, the Boom Town Rats and Les Entants. Plus the first showing on television of Mrs. Jagger's 1945. 6.00 Channel Four News. 7.00 News at Seven. 7.30 Right to Reply. The president of CBI, Sir James Cunniff, and the editor of The Business Programme, of chess business. 8.00 What the Papers Say. Anthony Howard of The Observer casts his experienced eye over how the country's press has treated the week's news. 8.15 A Week in Politics Special. Peter Jay, on the day after the first general election of the century, interviews the Prime Minister on the changes in party policy in the decade since she became leader of the Conservative Party. 9.15 The Sonnets of William Shakespeare. Ben Kingsley performs Sonnets 130 and 138. 9.30 Gardeners' Calendar. Hannah Gordon introduces a programme on the tasks to attend to in the garden during February. 10.00 News at Ten. 10.30 Families. The third programme of the series and Mavis Nicholson examines the effect a new baby may have on the relationship between the parents. 11.15 Court Report on the Ponting trial. 11.45 Film: Hell's Angels on Wheels (1967) starring Jack Nicholson as a petrol station attendant who joins a band of Hell's Angels and clashes with the leader over a woman. Directed by Richard Rush. 1.30 Close-down.

CHOICE being over-rich and over there, however, is no doubt whatsoever. And we see how various Pacific cultures, ancient and once jealously guarded, have adapted themselves to the new money-making possibilities of the package tour. Spirit houses in Papua New Guinea, deconstructed, are now souvenir shops. Wood carvings are treated with black boot polish to make them, ethnically, more acceptable. Under the terms of a contract with a tour agency, managers mechanically perform a dance that looks no more traditional than the twist. And there are temples in Bali where the ritualistic worship of the gods is specially edited so as not to tax the patience of car-fascinating tourists. There are, however, encouraging signs indicating that not all the Pacific traditionalists have sold their souls to the carriers of money-bags. In Hawaii, passionate voices are raised against further absorption into the US. And in Papua New Guinea, there are still areas where cannibalism is practised. Small wonder that tourism there is still in its infancy. Radio choice: The final programme in Alistair Cooke's characteristically well-informed series about popular American 'chanteuses ONLY BY WOMEN' (Radio 2, 10.30am). And there is Charles Rosen's recital of Beethoven and Schubert piano sonatas (Radio 3, 7.30pm and 8.30pm). Peter Davalle

Radio 4 5.30 Home-Ing In. Marjorie Louche of Cambridge. The DIT quotes raised by listeners. 6.45 Any Questions With Mps? With Bob Dromey, Andy Patrick and Frank Field. 6.50 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke. 6.55 Kaleidoscope. Includes comment on the Government Inspector, at the Olivier Theatre. 10.15 A Book at Bedtime: "Second from Last in the Sack-Race" by David Nobbs. (10) Read by Paul Copple. 10.30 The World Tonight. 11.00 News in Parliament. 11.30 Week Ending. National look at the week's news. 12.00-12.15 News. 12.30 Daily Service. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 News. 12.30 News. 12.45 News. 1.00 News. 1.15 News. 1.30 News. 1.45 News. 2.00 News. 2.15 News. 2.30 News. 2.45 News. 3.00 News. 3.15 News. 3.30 News. 3.45 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 News. 4.30 News. 4.45 News. 5.00 News. 5.15 News. 5.30 News. 5.45 News. 6.00 News. 6.15 News. 6.30 News. 6.45 News. 7.00 News. 7.15 News. 7.30 News. 7.45 News. 8.00 News. 8.15 News. 8.30 News. 8.45 News. 9.00 News. 9.15 News. 9.30 News. 9.45 News. 10.00 News. 10.15 News. 10.30 News. 10.45 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 News. 12.30 News. 12.45 News. 1.00 News. 1.15 News. 1.30 News. 1.45 News. 2.00 News. 2.15 News. 2.30 News. 2.45 News. 3.00 News. 3.15 News. 3.30 News. 3.45 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 News. 4.30 News. 4.45 News. 5.00 News. 5.15 News. 5.30 News. 5.45 News. 6.00 News. 6.15 News. 6.30 News. 6.45 News. 7.00 News. 7.15 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Portfolio £22,000 to be won

There is £22,000 available to be won in The Times Portfolio competition today...

UDR man third to die in family

IRA gunmen yesterday killed a part-time Ulster Defence Regiment soldier...

Five safe after 12 days adrift

The British family of five rescued after 12 days in a sloop rubber lifeboat...

Arts cash worry

Arts Council grants are to rise by an average of only 2 per cent...

WPC's memorial

Mrs Margaret Thatcher unveiled a stone memorial marking the spot where WPC Yvonne Fletcher was shot dead...

Minister wins

Herr Friedrich Frischenschlager, the Austrian Defence Minister attacked for pre-empting back a peace war...

Aids toll rising

Six people have died in Britain from Aids in the past month...

Mortgage costs

The real cost of mortgages is at its highest since the Depression of the 1930s...

Greenland's exit

Greenland celebrated its withdrawal from the EEC a month later than originally planned...

Armed relief

The Ethiopian Government has agreed to increase armed food convoys to famine areas...

Envoy leaves

France has withdrawn its ambassador to India in the wake of the spy scandal...

Tax alarm

Tax advisers are alarmed by the City gossip that the Chancellor is contemplating American-style unitary taxation...

India on top

India, inspired by some fast-scoring by Shastri, were 525 for seven at the close of the second day of the final Test...

On a plate

Burrough Hill Lad, last year's Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, has a walk-over today...

Home News 23, Parliament 4, Overseas 45, Religion 8, Arts 19, Sale Room 2, Bridge 14, Services 8, Business 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

'Vote with your feet', strikers urged by board

By Paul Rontledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board last night invited striking miners to 'vote with their feet' and return to work next week...

Thatcher plea to miners

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Prime Minister last night issued a plea to striking miners to return to work rather than pin their hopes on another round of talks...

German arms chief murdered

From Michael Binyon Bonn

Terrorists from the Red Army Faction yesterday killed the President of the West German Aerospace and Armaments Industry Association...



Mrs Jackie Onassis and Senator Edward Kennedy attending Lord Harlech's funeral yesterday. Tributes, page 2

Factions try to prevent civil war

Gun battles break out in Sidon

From Robert Fisk, Sidon

Heavy shooting broke out in central Sidon yesterday evening between militiamen from Israel's proxy 'South Lebanon Army' (SLA) and armed guerrillas...

US lists arms treaty violations

From Nicholas Ashford Washington

After several months' delay, President Reagan yesterday sent to Congress a report listing instances in which the Soviet Union is said to have violated arms treaties...



'Relieved': Mr Aitken with his wife, Lolita. (Photographs: John Voos).

'Dallas' libel action against MP fails

By Alan Hamilton

Being cast in the role of Sue-Ellen, the promiscuous alcoholic villainess of the television soap opera Dallas, did not amount to libel...

Mrs Pinder-White: 'Disappointed.' Mrs Pinder-White, in her mid-forties, wearing a red skirt and black cardigan...

Thatcher 'helped Ponting get job'

By Stewart Tendler

Clive Ponting, who is accused of leaking papers on the sinking of the General Belgrano to Mr Tam Dalyell, was given a senior post at the Ministry of Defence...

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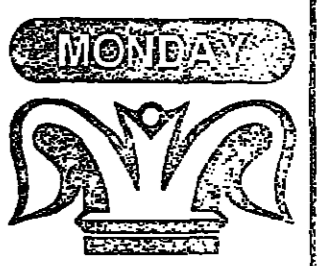
Steppin' out Why everyone is joining the dance craze... plus what to wear and where to buy it Page 9, 13



Speaking volumes Roy Strong's coffee table guide to interior decoration Page 6



Pushing off David Miller on the world championship downhill ski race Page 3



Worldly goods The first in a three part series on the churches and their money



Pop art on view The Police man and his arresting camera

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Drug list advisers refuse to sign Act

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

Two of the Government's team of seven specialists brought in to advise on amendments to the proposed limited list of drugs said yesterday that they had refused to sign the Official Secrets Act. They spoke at protests against the signing increased.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister of Health, said he had not known of the request, which was often made "more or less automatically."

"Perhaps in this case it is a little over-zealous and we shall be looking into it. These are distinguished and senior people in whom we can have total trust."

But Mr Michael Meacher, Labour's chief social services spokesman, said the experts had been brought in as a "tame watchdog" after the British Medical Association refused to cooperate over the limited list.

Dr John Tomlinson, a Hampshire family doctor, who refused to sign said: "I did not feel that as a professional person should be asked to sign over matters like this. The refusal was accepted. At no time did the chief medical officer or his staff pressure me and they accepted an undertaking that sensitive areas would remain confidential."

Dr David Coleman, the pharmacist on the team, also declined to sign. "I understood the necessity for keeping commercial information confidential, but felt the Official Secrets Act was not the best way to achieve that."

The other five members are understood to have signed the Act.

Dr Tim Chambers, secretary of the British Paediatric Association, which has put forward suggested amendments to the list, said he was worried about the request for a limited list of drugs to be signed, or to reveal if its advice was rejected. "When these lists are drawn up in hospitals everyone knows what is going on and why drugs are rejected, and there is open debate."

Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, president of the Royal College of Physicians, found the request to sign the act "most peculiar."

Meanwhile, the BMA disclosed yesterday that it plans to apply for judicial review of the Government's final limited list when the regulations are tabled. It would seek a declaration that the proposed list is unlawful under the Treaty of Rome and so has no effect.

Ministers are also considering extending the range of drugs available without prescription by taking three more out of the "prescription-only" category.

Bomb tests warnings ignored

By Pat Healy

The Government and senior military officers were warned about the danger of low-level radiation two years before Britain's first nuclear tests, documents at the Public Record Office at Kew show.

But the warnings went unheeded, according to Greenpeace, the environmental group, which yesterday submitted evidence to the Australian Royal Commission investigating the tests.

Group Captain David Wilson, in charge of radiological safety for the crews that flew Canberra bombers through the mushroom cloud after one explosion set out the danger in previously classified letters after six months at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell.

In a letter to a senior air vice-marshal, Group Captain Wilson said several difficulties were not appreciated fully, particularly because "all radioactivity is potentially highly dangerous and extremely insidious".

Atomic devices for testing were nearing completion before any instruments to measure the radiation dose that aircraft crews could receive had been provided.

In September 1950, Group Captain Wilson said the RAF had no measuring instruments, and none had been ordered for troops. There were no dosimeters, special clothing or equipment.

Mr Mark Mildred, the solicitor representing the British veterans of the tests, produced evidence that on one occasion Admiralty orders on safety regulations, based on International Commission for Protection recommendations, had been waived.

Anti-caning mother fails

A mother whose opposition to her sons being caned at school led to a fine and the children being taken into care failed to get her conviction quashed in the High Court yesterday.

Mrs Janice Jarman, aged 35, claimed she was wrongly convicted under the Education Act, 1944 by a Pontypriod stipendiary magistrate last July of failing to ensure that her sons attended Y Pant Comprehensive school, Talbot Green, Mid Glamorgan.

UDR soldier is third brother to be killed by Provisionals

By Richard Ford

James Graham, a part-time private in the Ulster Defence Regiment, feared that having survived one terrorist attack, gunmen would try again to murder him. Yesterday the Provisional IRA made him the third member in his family to be killed because of their membership of the UDR. His is the first UDR death this year.

He was shot dead as he waited in a bus to take children from a strongly nationalist area of a Fermanagh for their weekly swimming lesson. His death fuelled controversy in the Province with Unionist politicians saying critics of the UDR bore some responsibility for his death.

Mr Graham, aged 39, who had two teenage children, from Lislaskala, co Fermanagh, was apparently not on his normal school bus driving duty, for which he received discreet security protection. The two gunmen opened fire with automatic weapons outside St Mary's primary school in the village of Derrylin. The window of the bus was shattered but Mr Graham, awarded a

British Empire Medal last year for distinguished service with the UDR, staggered down the aisle after drawing his weapon. The gunmen boarded the bus and shot him again before fleeing towards the border eight miles away. According to some witnesses, they cheered as they got into the car and fired shots into the air as they escaped.

Condemning the shooting, Mr Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said: "You do not need very much courage or equipment to kill a man driving a bus outside a school."

Mr Graham joined the UDR on its formation in 1970, having previously served three and a half years with the B Specials.

In 1980, he survived an assassination attempt as he left his home. Despite being hit in the shoulder and neck he managed to get his rifle and beat off his three attackers who fled across fields. A man who saw him 40 minutes later said: "He was as cool as a cucumber. There was no bravado about him."

Eight months later in 1981, Mr Graham's brother, Ronald,



Dead brothers: Ronald (left), Cecil (centre) and the latest victim, James, killed yesterday in the bus he drove

married with two children, was shot by terrorists as he delivered groceries to a home in co Fermanagh. Last month a youth aged 16 was accused of the murder.

In November 1981, another brother, Cecil, was ambushed and killed as he left the home of his in-laws after visiting his wife, a Roman Catholic, and their new-born child.

Despite that, and the desire of his family for him to leave the regiment and even Northern Ireland, Mr Graham refused.

The Reverend Brian Courtney said: "His family wanted to leave, particularly after Cecil died. He knew that sooner or later they would come back and get him because he had dared to take them on and beat them off. He told me 'I'm not moving'."

He felt this was his home and he had worked all his life to build it up."

Mr Courtney added: "His life revolved around his family, his church and the regiment. He was just an ordinary Ulsterman from an ordinary family doing his bit."

His service to the UDR left his wife Lily, nervous and afraid every time he went on duty but security sources described him as a robust character.

● A part-time member of the UDR, Ian Clark, aged 22, from Millford, co Armagh, was remanded in custody to appear at Belfast Court on Monday accused of unlawfully holding Mrs Bernadette Speers and her 10-year-old son for £100,000 from her husband earlier this week.

Tories are tyrants, says Kinnock

By Richard Evans

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, accused the Government last night of attempting to crush the life out of local democracy and destroying the crucial partnership between central and local government.

None the less he stopped short of supporting the Labour Party conference policy to condone law-breaking by Labour councils.

Mr Kinnock described the Government as "ratcheting-fund cutting, election abolishing, councillor bashing, job destroying, service slashing bunch of inpot tyrants".

Speaking at the Labour Party local government conference in Birmingham, he said: "Over the last five years this government has offered only imposition, deprivation, threats and abuse to local government."

His central theme was the importance of the country working better when it works together, epitomized by the relationship between local and national government.

He said: "Today, that relationship, that principle is being shattered, by a government which in its cuts and penalties, its increase in responsibilities and decrease in powers, is taking both the local and the democracy out of local government."

"Any of the new measures would squeeze a local authority. When all of them are imposed together it is an attempt to crush the life out of local democracy."

Mr Kinnock added: "What the Government does now is eliminate rights while multiplying duties. Withdraw resources as it increases penalties."

Instead of blaming councillors for high rates, the Government should realize that the real reason for high rates was the cut in rate-support grant to local authorities from 61 per cent in 1978-79 to 48 per cent in 1985-86.

Pit output 'higher than before strike'

By Craig Seton

All 52 collieries are producing coal for the first time in 11 months while the western area reported that production and productivity are higher than before the strike, with fewer men working.

Nationally, production reached 667,000 tonnes this week, the best since last March representing about 30 per cent of the average pre-strike figure.

Three more pits started production yesterday: Renshaw Park in North Derbyshire, Kiveton Park near Rotherham, and Ashington Colliery, Northumberland.

National coal production is expected to rise significantly over the next few weeks to more than 40 per cent of normal.

Some faces, virtually neglected for 11 months, have to be brought back to production condition before returning strikers can start turning coal.

In Nottinghamshire, where the national overtime ban is still in force, production

New faces	For day		For week		Total at work	
	For day	For week	For day	For week	For day	For week
Scotland	18	207	4,180	33.3		
North-east	30	560	6,112	27.6		
Yorks	29	486	5,588	11.0		
Western	44	115	11,742	83.0		
S Wales	0	0	25	1.5		
N Derby	37	147	4,348	62.0		
S Mid (inc Kent)	0	0	9,486	81.9		
Norths	0	0	9	25,700	95.0	

Approximate Source: NCB

Flexible rota causes delay, says Aslef

By Our Labour Staff

Many train drivers are refusing to make up time on delayed services because of flexible rostering a rail union leader said yesterday.

Mr Neil Milligan, deputy general secretary of Aslef, the train drivers' union, said his members were deliberately incurring overtime because the working system, introduced after a series of strikes in 1982, meant they were scheduled to work up to the last minute.

Under the old procedures, there was always a longer period at the end of each shift when the drivers were not rostered to be working.

"If a driver is getting to the end of his shift and the train has been delayed through no fault of his own, it will not be to his benefit to make up the time. He will want to earn overtime," Mr Milligan said.

His comments come at a time when the union has told British Rail that it intends to withdraw from the system which management sees as the most efficient way of using manpower.

The resurfacing of the issue is almost certain to exacerbate an already deteriorating industrial relations atmosphere.

Mr Bob Reid, chairman of British Rail, said it is one of the central planks in his strategy to reduce government subsidies on passenger services from £862 million to £677 million in the next two years.

Union leaders of more than 90,000 professional civil servants yesterday submitted a claim for pay rises of up to 19 per cent, arguing that "the time has come for the Government to show it really does care about the wellbeing and efficiency of the Civil Service."

The Institution of Professional Civil Servants, representing a large range of specialist staff from lighthouse keepers to atomic scientists, called on the Treasury to implement a four-point pay plan.

Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, will call for an anti-Government alliance of three million public-sector employees at a meeting of the public services committee of the TUC on Monday.

More than 450 clerical workers employed by the Associated News Group, who walked out on strike yesterday in support of colleagues already in dispute with the company, were judged to have dismissed themselves, the management said last night.

The dispute by members of *Sogaz* 82, disrupting production of the *Daily Mail*, the *Mail on Sunday*, *The Field* and *Week-end*, began on Thursday when room staff held a union meeting on increased pay for handling new technology.

Radio Jackie is raided

Department of Trade and Industry investigators raided Radio Jackie, one of the most successful land-based pirate stations at midday yesterday, confiscated more than £10,000-worth of equipment and putting the station off the air.

Nine people were interviewed and warned that they could face prosecution. Mr Peter Rivers, for the station, based at Chesham, south London, said it would be broadcasting today.

£350,000 gift to museum appeal

The Wolfson Foundation has given £350,000 to the appeal by the Imperial War Museum in Lambeth, south London, to fund its redevelopment.

If the museum can reach its target of £2.5 million the Government will add £6.5 million to increase gallery space. The museum, which was founded in 1917 and has not expanded since 1936, can show only a fraction of its collection.

Information Bill unopposed

A private member's Bill to open up more council meetings and information to public scrutiny received an unopposed second reading in the Commons yesterday.

Mr William Waldegrave, Under-Secretary of State, Environment, broadly welcomed the Local Government (Access to Information) Bill, sponsored by Mr Robin Squire, Tory MP for Hornchurch.

Salisbury house for Heath

Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, has bought a seventeenth-century house in The Close at Salisbury with views of the cathedral near by.

The grade two listed building, which cost more than £90,000, has four bedrooms, three bathrooms and a 10-year lease.

London and Paris auction rooms report record sales

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The combined Paris auctioneers who use the Hotel Drouot for their sales announced yesterday that their turnover last year was 20 per cent higher than the previous year's at Fr1,247 million (£113 million). They emphasized that the increase was largely due to record prices at the top of the market, rather than an overall increase.

The result is broadly in line with the London auction houses, Phillips' turnover was up 20 per cent at £50 million last year. Christie's reported an autumn (September to Decem-

Cool response to NUM 'initiatives'

In a letter sent to Mr M. Spanton of the National Coal Board yesterday the NUM said: "I am in receipt of your letter dated January 31 1985, and must express great disappointment at the Board's response to the union's initiatives. The five proposals of the Union are undoubtedly positive initiatives to provide the basis for resumed negotiations and pay due regard for what has taken place in the industry over the past eleven months."

1. Plan for coal: This proposal is based upon previous submissions by the board which have been accepted by the union.

2. Future of collieries/mines: The union's proposal takes account of the board's own suggestions when the board has previously agreed to provide for all matters relating to the future of collieries/mines to be dealt with in accordance with procedures operant prior to March 1984, and of course the union have previously accepted an amendment to the procedures to provide for an independent review body, and we feel that the broad recognition given to this proposal during informal discussions could lead to agreement in negotiations.

3. Five collieries: The union's proposal accepts that these five pits

remain within the procedure on the understanding that undertakings given by the board within the procedure will be honoured. This new proposal also provides for any unforeseen major mining problems to be discussed in the normal way, and we feel this point is manifestly fair and sensible.

4. March 4th Proposal: The union's proposal is, of course, a statement of the present situation and has been publicly acknowledged by the board's spokesman, Mr Eaton, in an Independent Radio News interview on January 31, 5. Amnesties: It is inconceivable that in any discussions leading to a resolution of this dispute that the question of dealing with those men who have been dismissed in the course of the dispute cannot be a matter for discussion between the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers. Indeed, in my meeting with Mr Smith on January 21, it was acknowledged that the union would pursue this matter when negotiations resumed. It seems a matter of regret that the same principle applied in 1972 and 1974 be applied in the current situation. I find your refusal to resume negotiations without preconditions extremely disappointing. Should the board change its mind, however, and decide that it does want to see a settlement of this dispute, I reiterate that the union's national executive committee is available for talks at any time.

Yours sincerely,
P. F. HEATHFIELD,
Secretary

"No grounds" for new discussions

statement issued by the NCB yesterday said:

The National Coal Board regret that the National Union of Mineworkers have provided no further grounds to enable the present round of discussions to continue, because they have publicly and rigidly refused to move from their impossible demand that all uneconomic pits should remain open. The Board remain ready to resume negotiations when the union make it clear they are prepared to have meaningful talks to serve the interests of the coal industry and the uneconomic coal mining capacity. This is the central issue to resolve in order to reach a negotiated settlement of the NUM's dispute. However, in all the correspondence of the past few days, a procedure to deal with uneconomic capacity has not once been mentioned by the union.

A way to deal with the problem of uneconomic capacity is the essential issue in view of the many public statements that have been made by the leaders of the NUM. The board made it clear to the union, at Tuesday informal talks and in writing, that they required the NUM to put forward proposals to provide a basis for the board to determine if it was worthwhile to enter negotiations to reach a settlement of the dispute. No such proposals have been put forward by the NUM.

It was surprising there was nothing new in the points raised by the union, apart from seeking an amnesty for dismissed employees, and the board has made it clear that this can form no part of discussions leading to a resolution of the dispute.

The board re-affirms their commitment reached with the officials' union Navvies. This includes a re-examination of the colliery review procedure to improve its effectiveness.

Thatcher's praise for shot policewoman

By Tony Samstag



Helping hand: Comfort from Mrs Thatcher for WPC Fletcher's mother and sisters at the memorial stone arranged by a trust set up under Mr Winnar (right).

The nation paid its last respects yesterday to WPC Fletcher, who was shot dead during a demonstration outside the Libyan People's Bureau last April, with the unveiling of a stone memorial marking the spot where she fell in St James's Square, central London.

About a thousand people, many carrying flowers, heard Mrs Margaret Thatcher describe her "sense of humility and pride" as she performed the unveiling.

Accompanied by Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, and the Liberal and SDP leaders, Mr David Steel and Dr David Owen, the Prime Minister also paid tribute "to the other brave men and women police officers who have been killed or injured".

As office workers crowded the windows and balconies overlooking the square, Mrs Thatcher, dressed in black, recalled the words of Abraham Lincoln: "Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it."

WPC Fletcher's parents, Tim and Cecile, and her sisters, Heather, Sarah and Debbie, were at the hour-long ceremony, which included a performance by the Metropolitan Police Band that at times brought a joyful element to the solemn occasion.

Mrs Thatcher said that the monument would be a reminder to Londoners and visitors alike that without the police the law could not be upheld. "Without them, indeed, there would be no law, and no liberty."

"We have become used to seeing our policemen and women respond magnificently to any challenge. But we must never take their professionalism for granted."

Sir Kenneth Newman, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said that WPC Fletcher had been "guzzled down by a terrorist firing from the Libyan People's Bureau".

Facing the now locked and empty building from which the shot had been fired, Sir Kenneth added: "Such unwarranted and insanely murderous reaction from an embassy had previously been beyond the imagination of any police officer or other citizen."

The 4th-high memorial of Portland stone with a mottled granite face, is the first in Britain to honour a police officer killed on duty.

Mr Michael Winnar, the film-maker and chairman of the Police Memorial Trust, which arranged the ceremony, said that it would erect other monuments.

Future monuments would honour the victims of the Harrods bombing in December 1983 and police officers who had died since.

Harlech funeral tributes

The sound of hymns echoed down a Welsh hillside yesterday at the funeral of Lord Harlech and Mrs Jackie Onassis was close to tears at the churchyard at Llanfangel-y-Tracthan, near Harlech, in Gwynedd.

Lord Harlech had been a close friend of President John Kennedy and his wife. Also at the funeral were Senator Edward Kennedy, his sister, Mrs Jean Smith, and his nephew, Mr Mark Shriver, aged 21.

About 80 people were inside the church and another 100 stood in the churchyard.

The mourners were led by his widow Pamela, and the new Lord Harlech, aged 30.

Lord Gowrie represented the Government and the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Mr Roy Jenkins, MP, and Mrs Jennifer Jenkins, and Lord and Lady Anglesey were also present.

The address was given by the Rev Robert Hughes, of Birmingham, son of the Welsh novelist Richard Hughes, who was a close friend of Lord Harlech.

Sir Geraint Evans joined a choir formed by local villagers to sing Welsh hymns.

Senator Kennedy said in his tribute to Lord Harlech: "David was Jack's best friend in Britain. Through Kathleen in the 1940s and then through Jack, each of us came to know him as a friend, almost a member of our family. And his death is a special loss for all of us."

Residents' dossier on deformed babies

By Patricia Clough

Four defective babies had been born or aborted near the RSC-chem incineration plant at the Fawley, Southampton in the last seven months, amid mounting fears among communities near similar plants in Scotland and Wales.

Residents last night appointed a ten-man committee to look into health problems which they say are similar to those suffered by people living near RSC-chem plants at Bonleach, north of Glasgow, and New Inn, near Pontypool.

Six babies have been born with eye defects in the Bonleach area and four around New Inn. Residents complain of nausea, respiratory problems, cramps and other ailments. Numerous cattle have become diseased and given birth to eyeless, deformed or stillborn calves.

Some scientists suspect the troubles may be due to dioxin, which can be produced by the incineration of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) a substance processed in the two plants. Research maintains emphatically that there can be no link with their activities.

PCBs have been burnt at Fawley only twice, for three to four hours each on December, 1983, and February 29, 1984. The company says there are no plans to start burning them there. It adds that the fact that PCBs were not built there regularly made claims of links with deformities ridiculous.

A seven-month-old girl near Fawley has been found to have eye tumours. One eye has been removed and the other is being treated by radiation at a London hospital.

The mother was pregnant during the test burnings.

Mrs Sally Anderson, who has been collating information, said another child, aborted, at 30 weeks had only one eye, a cleft palate, hare lip and hydrocephalus.

The other cases of hare lip, one also involving a cleft palate and hydrocephalus, have also been reported. But the local community medicine office says the incidents of birth defects in children had been studied and were no higher than the average. He did not know, however, when the last study had been made.

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JAN 21 1985

Uncertain future for opera and theatre as arts grants are cut

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

British arts organizations face one of their bleakest periods after a decision by the Arts Council effectively to cut grants to most of the country's companies.

The council announced yesterday that it will give an average increase of 2 per cent to its clients, although some will have yet to be named, which will receive no increase.

It concedes that the rise, which is less than the inflation rate, represents a real cut in grants, but said that it was left with no alternative after the decision of Lord Gowrie, the Minister for the Arts, to limit the general rise in arts funds to 3 per cent.

Mr Luke Ritter, the council's secretary general, said that the settlement posed grave problems for several companies, particularly the English National Opera. The council will be writing to the Lord Gowrie, warning him of the serious effects of the decision.

"One begins to wonder whether a major tragedy isn't needed to bring the Government to its senses", Mr Ritter

said. "I can't pretend that we're not all extremely worried."

The grants to large individual organizations will not be revealed until next week, but it is clear that most will receive no more than a rise of 2 per cent, and some will have to cut their seasons to survive. The council has taken the unprecedented step of spending all its grant allocation in one go as an introduction to a freeze on administration costs but Mr Ritter did not hide his concern about the effects.

The minimal increase in the Government's grant forced the council to consider the future of its regional development plan, summed up last year in *The Glory of the Garden* document, but the strategy is to continue at a cost of £3 million.

Mr Ritter said: The council has agonized over whether the longer-term interests of the arts are better served by a policy of making a start with our development plans, which are starting to attract significant new funding from local sources.

"In opting for the latter, we

hope that as the effects of development become clear, particularly outside London, the Government will see the strengths and importance of our strategy."

English National Opera faces severe difficulties because of the level of its settlement and the threatened withdrawal of its grant by the Greater London Council. Mr Ritter said, and would probably be unable to continue in its present form.

"The ENO is facing grave problems. I think that an uplift of the size that we are talking of isn't going to help those problems. The GLC's withdrawal, if it takes place, will simply compound it and I think may make their life impossible."

It seems certain that the Royal Opera House and the National Theatre will be limited to 2 per cent increases. Covent Garden plans ticket price increases to help to make up the deficit and the National has given a warning that such a low settlement could force it to close its small experimental stage, the Cottesloe.



Floral Princess: The Princess of Wales talking to Sharini Stewart, aged two, after accepting her bouquet during a visit to the Broadwater Farm Youth Association, in Tottenham, north London, yesterday (Photograph: Julian Herbert).

3 sisters challenge £10m left to servants

Three elderly sisters may fail to get any part of a £10 million family fortune because they cannot afford the legal fees needed to contest a will that left all the money to two servants.

Their brother, Mr Thomas Burn, who died three weeks ago aged 77, left his Elizabethan manor house, 55 acres of land and a collection of antiques to his two servants who served him for more than 20 years.

His sisters have been left nothing. The fortune was made by their father, who owned a number of tailors shops and won government contracts to supply uniforms to British servicemen during the first World War.

Ross Leuch Court, near Evesham, Worcestershire, has been left to Mr James Newman, who joined Mr Burn's employ as a gardener and Mrs Monica Houghton, aged 59, who was his estate manager.

Mr Burn's three sisters, Mrs Billah Curmuck, aged 69, who lives in the village; Mrs Zweena Ward, aged 75, of Chaplow; and Mrs Joan McLean, aged 67, of Elnburgh, consulted a solicitor, about contesting the will.

But Mrs McLean said yesterday that she and her sisters did not have enough money to meet the legal fees, but also that they did not qualify for legal aid.

She said that the manor house, given to Mr Burn as a twenty-first birthday present was worth at least £10 million. She added: "We should have expected this because Dad was a Dickenson and believed that women were no good and that Tom was the marvellous one."

"Tom thought of nothing but his antiques and his poodles and the dogs meant more to him than we did."

Mrs Houghton and Mr Newman refused to discuss their willfall.

Aids has killed six in past month

By our Social Services Correspondent

Five people have died from Aids, acquired immunity deficiency syndrome, in the past month, with 10 new cases recorded, the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday.

The figures, which do not include the death on Thursday of the Rev Gregory Richards, chaplain at Chelmsford Prison, take the number of deaths in Britain to 51 and the total number of cases to 118.

The new cases are young homosexual men, the department said.

The figures came as the department issued more specific advice to blood donors in a leaflet to be handed to every donor.

The leaflet stresses that people must not give blood if they are practising homosexual or bisexual men, are a male or female drug user who injects drugs, or have sexual contacts with any of these groups.

Donors cannot themselves contract Aids or any other disease from giving blood.

The new leaflet has been issued after a case where an Aids victim who donated blood passed the infection to blood recipients and other cases where haemophiliacs have contracted the disease from imported concentrates of the anti-clotting agent factor VIII, extracted from donated blood.

Mr Richards, the Church of England prison chaplain, regularly visited gay clubs in London (Rupert Morris writes).

Dr Tony Kirkland, district medical officer for Mid-Essex Health Authority, said yesterday: "Mr Richards' contacts were in London. He kept the two sides of his life entirely separate, and there is no reason to believe that any of those who had social contact with him in the course of his pastoral duties at the prison are at any risk whatsoever."

Mr Richards, an Australian was chaplain to 216 young male offenders at Chelmsford Prison Essex, and 61 teenage girls at Bulwood Hall, near Southend.

The body of Mr Richards, aged 38, was in Chelmsford mortuary last night, sealed in a plastic cover. It is expected that he will be cremated over this weekend.

But the health authority has been receiving telephone calls from communicants.

Dr Kirkland said: "We are getting calls from eminently respectable church ladies who had sipped wine from the same cup as Mr Richards. They are obviously worried that they may have picked up the infection. But I can assure them there is absolutely nothing for them to worry about. There is no evidence that Aids can be passed on in this way."

Cheap car imports 'still being blocked'

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The Consumers' Association has sent evidence to the EEC Commission in Brussels which claims to show that at least five large car makers continue to flout Community rules on car pricing. It adds that they also obstruct British motorists trying to import cheap cars.

Miss Sue Leggate, of the association's magazine *Which?* said its latest survey of prices and availability of cars in Belgium, still the most popular country for British buyers, showed that Austin Rover, BMW, Fiat, Ford, and Peugeot were instructing their dealers to make difficulties for British buyers.

The EEC's new regulations are aimed at preventing car prices drifting by more than 12 per cent from country to country.

However, the instructions were not uniformly obeyed. All Opel dealers contacted in Belgium said they were prepared to accept orders without hesitation. But the *Which?* survey also found dealers refusing to supply any cars for export.

A Ford dealer said he had received a letter from the factory instructing him not to sell cars for export to Britain.

Miss Leggate said that from July the EEC Commissioners would take discounting into account when deciding whether a manufacturer was keeping to the 12 per cent maximum difference in price.

Arthur Kit (Consumers' Association, Castlemead, Gosayne Way, Herford, SG14 1LH; £3).

Bill blocks test-tube babies

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

A Bill published yesterday would not only ban embryo research but also create such formidable obstacles that test-tube baby treatment would virtually stop, specialists say.

Mr Enoch Powell's Embryo Children (Protection) Bill, is due for its second reading on February 15. MPs have been bombarded by petitions from pro-life groups calling for a ban on embryo research and it seems possible that the private member's measure may receive its second reading.

The Bill effectively rules out all research on human embryos by preventing their being created, kept or used for any purpose other than enabling a child to be born.

But it also stipulates that doctors would need written permission from the Secretary of State for each named woman before treatment started. Permission would last for four months, or until the embryo insertion had been completed, whichever was the sooner, with the four month period extendable by two months.

Those breaking the Bill's provisions would face penalties of up to two years' imprisonment or an unlimited fine.

Mr Robert Winston, consultant gynaecologist at Hammer-smith Hospital and a test-tube baby specialist, said his initial reaction was that the Bill "would effectively ban all in-vitro fertilization in this country". It could take several courses of treatment, each taking up to three months, before an embryo was even replaced, let alone a pregnancy achieved.

The bureaucracy involved in needing permission to treat each woman would make it impossible to run infertility clinics.

Dr Robert Edwards, who with Mr Patrick Steptoe pioneered the test-tube baby treatment, asked why women who needed test-tube baby treatment should be faced with "this fantastic amount of administration" when other forms of infertility treatment required no such "palaver".

"It seems a very harsh Bill for those people who could legitimately be helped and I am surprised that under it, it would be more difficult to abort an existing foetus," he said.

On the Bill's effective ban on research, he said: "If we can avoid the birth of children with anomalies and defects I fail to see why that research should not be done."

Manufacturer & Model	UK List Price	Liberty Discount	Belgian Price	Total Savings
Austin Metro	£3,422	10%	£2,288	£1,134
BMW 320i	£7,461	None	£5,986	£1,475
Fiat Ritmo 60 ES	£3,809	10%	£3,200	£609
Ford Fiesta	£3,747	15%	£2,708	£1,039
Mazda 323 1500 GT	£4,694	6%	£3,516	£1,178
Nissan Cherry	£3,451	10%	£2,227	£1,224
Opel Corsa 1.0	£3,800	10%	£2,229	£1,571
Peugeot 305 GT	£5,334	12 1/2%	£4,280	£1,054
Renault 5 GTL	£3,757	10%	£2,910	£847
Toyota Starlet 1.0	£3,563	6%	£2,286	£1,277

First surcharges appear on package tour bills

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Tour operators are beginning to impose surcharges on the first of the summer's package holidays, some of them about the 10 per cent self-imposed maximum. A typical £250 Spanish holiday is going up by between £20 and £22.50; a £300 Greek holiday could rise by about £15.

Most surcharges on Spanish holidays are between 8 per cent and 9 per cent on final invoices now going out, according to Lunn Poly. For popular destinations in Greece and Yugoslavia, which more holidaymakers have chosen as Spanish holiday prices have risen, the surcharges are running at between 3 per cent and 5 per cent.

Most operators are invoicing Malta holidays at the full 10 per cent increase because costs have risen by up to 13 per cent.

The surcharges are caused by sterling's slide against the dollar, in which currency aviation fuel is sold, and by sterling trading badly against the holiday destination currencies in which hotel beds were bought at rates fixed months ago.

Some other surcharge levels indicated yesterday were: Canary Islands, between 8 per cent and 9 per cent; Italy, between 6 per cent and 7 per cent; Portugal, between 5 per cent and 7 per cent; Tunisia, about 8 per cent.

Report on BBC likely to back £65 licence

By David Hewson

The independent report on the BBC's value for money was delivered to the Home Secretary yesterday. It is expected to back the corporation's view that there is no great scope for savings within its organization.

The report was commissioned by the BBC from the accountants Peat Marwick at the request of the Home Secretary, who has said that he will use the findings when deciding on the corporation's licence fee claim of £65.

The confidential document, which according to a BBC executive is more than an inch thick, has been revised at the suggestion of BBC staff over the past three weeks and was endorsed yesterday by the corporation's board of governors.

It is thought that the BBC will publish part of the report, which it feels is generally in its favour.

The accountants' brief was to examine the efficiency of the organization of the BBC. The report does not look at any of the wider questions about licence fees such as whether the corporation should be funded in part by advertising.

The findings are expected to endorse the corporation's claims that a £65 licence fee would represent good value and that the only way to make sweeping savings would be to close large areas of the BBC.

Leading article, page 7

Safety laws 'ignored' at death plant

The water industry failed to follow its own safety guidelines at the Abbeystead plant in Lancashire where 16 people died and 30 were injured in a gas explosion last May, it was claimed yesterday.

Mr John Pullen, editor of *The Engineer* magazine, which has disclosed details of a Health and Safety Executive report on the disaster due to be published next Thursday, expressed grave concern that guidelines were ignored.

The executive conceded that Mr Pullen's claims had "some validity" but the Water Authorities Association insisted that they were not applicable to Abbeystead.

The dispute centres on safety measures drawn up in an advisory paper by the then National Water Council's health and safety committee in 1978, at the time the Abbeystead plant was built.

It revised gas-monitoring and shaft ventilation standards in the light of a similar explosion of a methane gas build-up at the Teitley Brewery in Leeds more than 20 years earlier, in which two workmen died.

Mr Pullen said: "The point was made then that bore holes and horizontal tunnels could develop methane build-ups and it was recommended that they should have gas-monitoring systems and that those measures should not be confined to vertical boreholes alone."

However, the Water Authorities Association said the explosion happened in an underground chamber which was not specifically the subject of the 1978 guidelines.

The Health and Safety Executive's report has cleared the North-West Water Authority of responsibility for the disaster.

Nine phone box staff are jailed

Nine British Telecom employees, who counted the cash from London telephone boxes were jailed by Kingston upon Thames Crown Court yesterday for stealing thousands of pounds in 51p pieces.

Mrs Betty Austin, aged 61, of Whinchat Road, Thamesmead, south-east London, who admitted stealing £14,000 and had used some of the money to open a bar in Spain, was jailed for a year.

Joseph Rowlands, Alan Johnson, Peter Mawhinny, and Terence Lee, were each jailed for six months.

Michael Peacock, Terence Wiggall, for three months, Patrick Brannon, for two months and Terence Walker for 28 days.

Eight other employees were ordered to do community service.

Police shot unarmed raiders

Two unarmed post office raiders were shot by police officers inside the building and one raider was left paralysed from the chest down, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The other intruder, Alfred Robin Ficken, aged 43, a labourer of Murray Square, Caning Town, east London, who was shot in the stomach, was jailed for eight years for conspiring with Daniel Carey to rob the sub-post office in Seven Sisters Road, Tottenham, north London last June.

No proceedings are being taken against Carey, aged 26, of Hadd Green, West Ham, east London, because of his condition.

Mr Anthony Kenny, for the prosecution, said: "The two men didn't realize that police would be there and the police didn't realize that the two rubbers would be there."

Inquest opened

An inquest on Steven Hindley, aged 21, an assistant at a shoe shop in New Bond Street, London, who died of stab wounds on Monday after an incident in the shop, was opened and adjourned at Westminster Coroners' Court yesterday.

'Newsboy' jailed

Dennis Mourhouse, aged 55 of no settled address, was jailed for six months by Clerkenwell magistrates yesterday when he admitted stealing newspapers worth £7,000 from shop doorways in the West End of London and selling them at Tube stations.

Owls for London

Three barn owls, two females and a male, were released yesterday at Park Lodge Farm, Harpenden, north London, as part of a breeding scheme to reintroduce the owls to London.

Murray funeral

The funeral service for Chic Murray, the Scottish comedian, took place yesterday at Mortonhall crematorium, Edinburgh. More than 300 people attended.

Loser in TV 'court' case tries to challenge ruling

The rulings of a retired Central Criminal Court judge, Mr Alan King-Hamilton, QC, who decides disputes in the Channel 4 television series, *Case on Camera*, might be open to challenge in the High Court, a judge said yesterday.

Mr Justice Stocker sitting in London: was dealing with an application by a property conveyancer Mr John Watson, for leave to challenge the television judge's finding against him in October last year.

Refusing the application by Mr Watson, of Mandstone

Handwriting evidence at car bomb trial

The handwriting of Graham Backhouse was significantly similar to that in two threatening letters found at his farmhouse, car bomb trial at Bristol Crown Court was told yesterday.

The impression of a doodle and some handwriting found on the back of one of the notes matched a doodle and handwriting found on a note pad at Wedden Hill, Horton, Avon, the jury was told.

The prosecution has alleged that the notes were part of an elaborate series of deceptions by Mr Backhouse, aged 43, who pleads not guilty to attempting to murder his wife, Margaret in a car bomb attack and also to murdering his neighbour, Mr John Bedale-Taylor.

A Home Office expert, Mr Michael Hall, said that he could form no definite opinion about who wrote the notes, but added: "Of the specimens of handwriting I examined the only specimen that bore any significant similarity was the handwriting of Mr Backhouse."

The Crown alleges that he tried to kill his wife to gain £100,000 in life assurance and killed Mr Bedale-Taylor in an attempt to frame him.

The trial continues.

SKIPTON PAYS A BETTER RATE...

SOCIETY	SHARE	INTEREST RATE	WITHDRAWAL TERMS ON TOTAL BALANCES
SKIPTON	SOVEREIGN	9.70%	NO NOTICE OR PENALTY
LEEDS PERM	LIQUID GOLD	9.00%	NO NOTICE OR PENALTY
ABBAY NATIONAL	ADAY ACCOUNT	8.75% ^o	7 DAYS NOTICE OR PENALTY
HALIFAX	7 DAY EXTRA	8.75% ^o	7 DAYS NOTICE OR PENALTY
NATIONWIDE	BONUS 7	8.75% ^o	7 DAYS NOTICE OR PENALTY
WOOLWICH	HIGHER INTEREST	8.75% ^o	7 DAYS NOTICE OR PENALTY

...AND NO STRINGS!

9.70% NET

EQUAL TO 13.86%*

SOVEREIGN SHARES

Please complete in block capital. Tick where appropriate.

I wish to open a Sovereign Account and open a cheque for £ _____ (Max. £3,000. Joint Account £10,000)

I wish to open a Sovereign Monthly Interest Account and open a cheque for £ _____ (Max. £3,000. Joint Account £10,000)

Cheques should be made payable to Skipton Building Society

Please send me more details

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POST CODE _____

Member of the Building Societies Association and Insurance Protection Scheme. Interest paid annually. Rates not always available. *Based on 20% savings tax.

Pretoria suspends forced migration of Africans for resettlement review

From Michael Hornsby, Cape Town

South Africa has decided to stop the removal of Africans occupying land in areas reserved mainly for whites pending an extensive review of its widely criticized resettlement programme.

Dr Gerrit Viljoen, Minister of Co-operation and Development responsible for African affairs, made the announcement yesterday in response to requests that he spell out implications of reforms promised last week by President P. W. Botha.

Dr Viljoen estimated that the review could affect hundreds of thousands of Africans living in 25 to 30 rural settlements and in a further 20 urban areas. They are at present threatened with removal under decisions taken some years ago.

Among the rural communities under threat are Kwangema and Driefontein in the Eastern Transvaal. The inhabitants of Kwangema wrote to the Queen and Mrs Thatcher last year asking them to intercede with Mr Botha when he visited Britain.

These and the other rural communities affected are so-called "black spots", where Africans have frehold title or other rights of tenure dating

before 1913, when the Natives Land Act ended purchase by Africans of land outside tribal reserves.

African settlements on the fringes of "white" reserves or "homelands" are also covered by the review. Government policy has been that these populations should be transferred to the reserves.

Dr Viljoen said he could not predict the outcome of the review, but left a strong impression that some and perhaps most of the threatened communities would be allowed to stay. He could give no assurance, however, that there would be no further removals or that coercion would never be used.

Foreign criticism was an important, though not decisive, reason for the review, he said. Others were the opposition to removal of those affected and that the populations of some areas in question had swollen, making resettlement impracticable.

Guidelines of future policy, he said, were that resettlement should occur "only in absolutely essential cases" and be

"reduced to a minimum", that "so far as is humanly possible" removals should take place only with the agreement of those concerned; and that resettlement must enhance the quality of life of those moved.

● **MANDELA REACTION:** The imprisoned leader of the African National Congress (ANC), Mr Nelson Mandela, will not agree to the terms set for his release by President Botha unless his organization is given legal status and allowed to take part in political activity.

This view of Mr Mandela's family and friends is shared by many leaders of black opinion, both moderate and radical. There is agreement, however, that the offer represents a sharp break with policy and could open the way to negotiations between Pretoria and the ANC.

On Thursday Mr Botha told Parliament that the Government would free Mr Mandela if he renounced unconditionally the use of violence.

In a statement yesterday, Mrs Winnie Mandela said: "Mr Botha is talking about his people's freedom. It is odd that the jailer, Botha, is asking the prisoner, Mandela, for permission to release him."

Greenland celebrates EEC exit

From Christopher Follett, Copenhagen

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Leading article, page 7

Korean exile hopes to avert crisis

Washington (Reuters) - Mr Kim Dae-Jung, the South Korean opposition leader, making his last public US appearance before ending his exile, said he was going home in the hope of heading off a polarization between the Seoul Government and radicals.

"Before it is too late, I must go back to my country," he told a reception on Capitol Hill on Thursday night. "I see some possibility of dangerous development at present in the political situation in Korea."

Mr Kim, who is due to return to South Korea next Friday, came to the United States more than two years ago when he was released from jail, where he was serving a 20-year sentence for sedition, to undergo medical treatment.

The South Korean Government has reminded him several times that he is legally obliged to serve the remaining 17½ years of his sentence if he returns, but has stopped short of saying it would enforce the law.

Mr Kim said: "There may be some polarization between the military dictatorship on the one side and radicals on the other. If we fail to bring about the restoration of democracy within

Lisbon: 8 bombs wreck homes

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

Terrorists struck in Portugal for the fourth time this week when they set off eight bombs yesterday in a residential area housing West German personnel near the West German Air Force training base at Beja, south-east of Lisbon.

The explosions destroyed 18 cars and blew in doors and windows. The wife of a West German soldier was slightly injured by flying glass, according to the West German embassy in Lisbon.

The FP-25 terrorist group claimed responsibility for the attack and demanded that the West German base be removed from Portuguese territory.

Yesterday's attack on the president of the West German Aerospace and Armaments Industry Association, in the assassination attempt, in the late wave of terrorism here, is seriously worrying the Bonn Government, especially in view of the world economic summit to be held here at the beginning of May and the planned State visit by President Reagan.

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The accused General Ver (fourth from left, front row) General Olivas (in uniform) and other defendants in court

Accused in Aquino case plead not guilty

From Keith Daiton, Manila

The 25 military men and a civilian charged in connection with the 1983 murder of the Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino, pleaded not guilty yesterday as their trial began in Manila.

All 26, including General Fabian Ver, the armed forces chief, also pleaded not guilty to charges in connection with the murder of Benigno Aquino, who was named by the military as the assassin but is now described by the prosecution as

a scapegoat in an alleged bid to overthrow the government. Five minutes later a stern-faced General Ver, Major General Prospero Olivas, Manila's chief of police, a general and two colonels filed into the room.

The lone civilian charged, Mr Hermelino Gonsalves, followed moments later and sat between General Ver and General Olivas, the only defendant in uniform.

General Ver, General Olivas

and six soldiers are named as accessories in an alleged cover-up of the crime and are liable to a maximum of 40 years' imprisonment if convicted on both counts.

The other 17 military men are named as principal accused in the murder of Mr Aquino. If convicted they face the death penalty.

Justice Manuel Pamaran, who heads the three-man court, set next Thursday for the start of daily hearings.

Chess anger at switch to hotel

Moscow (AP) - The world chess championship is to move from the Hall of Columns in Moscow to the less glittering and more isolated Hotel Sport for Monday's game, officials said yesterday.

The high cost for the Hall of Columns reportedly about £7,500 a day and the record length of the competition that began nearly five months ago are the reasons.

The scheduled game between the world champion, Anatoly Karpov, who leads 5-2, and his challenger Gary Kasparov, was postponed yesterday to allow for the move to the hotel.

The hall was booked, originally for only 78 days from September 10 to November 26, and was then rebooked. Chess sources say that Karpov and Kasparov are both opposed to the change of venue.

Two matches have been postponed for events already booked months ago for the hall, but there has been renewed public interest in recent weeks.

Karpov need only one more win to retain his title.

Terrorism in Europe

Bonn: Security fears for Reagan trip

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

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Briton granted bail after weeks in Egyptian jail

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

One of two Britons held in Cairo since November for their alleged part in a plot to assassinate a former Libyan prime minister has been granted bail by an Egyptian court.

Mr Godfrey Shine, aged 47, from London, has two weeks from which to find sureties of 30,000 Egyptian pounds, according to the Foreign Office yesterday. This is officially equivalent of about £22,000 but much less on the widespread black market.

The Foreign Office also points out that the Egyptian Interior Ministry has 15 days from the date of the hearing in which to appeal against the bail.

Mr Anthony Gill, aged 48, who is also still in detention, with two Maltese, after the uncovering of a plot to kill Mr Abdul Hamid Bakouah, a

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China's fading beacons

Peking (Reuters) - China's leading ideological journal yesterday told the Chinese people to stop seeking a magic remedy in the works of Mao and Marx and look instead at present realities.

The two were beacons of socialism, but Mao Tse-tung sometimes got it wrong and Karl Marx did not have all the answers. *Red Flag* said in a lengthy article on China's political course. The item was on the front pages of yesterday's national newspapers.

"Our principle is that we must integrate theory with practice. In recent years, we have sometimes stressed theory, sometimes practice. We must not make this mistake again."

The rejection of blind obedience to Mao and Marx and the

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Leading article, page 7

Moscow pressed to save Greek ships

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece has appealed to the Soviet Union to help to free Greek shipowners from the clutches of international capitalism by chartering more of their under-employed ships.

The appeal was made by Mr George Katsifaras, the Merchant Marine minister, to his Soviet counterpart, Mr Timofey Guzhenko, whose five-day visit here ended yesterday.

Greek shipowners, affected by the prolonged slump in world shipping, are under strong pressure from their Western bankers because of loan default. More than one hundred ships have been seized for bad debts in the past 18 months.

At a lunch Mr Katsifaras solicited Soviet sympathy for the shipowners by pointing out that they were the first to break the blockade of Cuba.

Hanoi return ruled out by UN chief

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Senior Javier Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, said yesterday that there was no basis for him to go back to Vietnam for more talks about ending the war in Cambodia. As he spoke, Vietnamese and Cambodian Government forces near Thailand's eastern border appeared ready to launch their most important campaign yet against resistance guerrillas.

The Secretary-General said that he had received clarification of Vietnam's position which encouraged him to continue his peace efforts. He was conveying that information to countries concerned but had not yet had responses from them.

However, in an official statement the Thai Government said the Secretary-General had failed to break the deadlock in Cambodia. Vietnam was still being ruled by a Government dominated by Hanoi, a situation unacceptable to Thailand. Vietnam had offered the Secretary-General nothing new, not even a readiness to compromise, the spokesman said.

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Paris: Security fears for Reagan trip

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High reach multi-washer that extends your reach to 18 FT.

If you find cleaning out-of-reach windows, walls and ceilings a problem and window cleaners this expensive - this versatile extendable Multi-Washer will prove of particular benefit. Reaches places that no ordinary cleaners can reach, while you keep both feet safely and firmly on the ground. The top quality Bin dual purpose cleaning head enables you to quickly wash and then scour away dirt. Professional window cleaners use this. The head is adjustable to many angles and locks firmly to the most convenient and comfortable position for a variety of cleaning jobs both inside and outside the house.

By inserting the 6oz ultra lightweight non-rust aluminium poles, your reach can be extended in six stages (total of 6 poles supplied). Will give you a total reach (dependent on your height) of around 18ft. Also ideal for washing down walls and ceilings prior to painting; when cleaning greenhouses, conservatories, patios, balconies and tiled wall/floor areas or cleaning condensation from windows. For low windows, cars, etc the unit can be used hand held without poles. Packs clean only 3ft for compact convenient storage. Only £10.99 + £1.95 p.p. Spare SPONGE/WIPER sets are available at £1.50.



Commons

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Mrs Angela Rumbold (Litham and Warton, C) said this Bill should enable local people to understand what their local authority was doing, done on their behalf by the council and improve the relationship between the council and the public and the development of their own area. Only by doing this could people with healthy interests be attracted to local government.

Local government

Mr Simon Hughes (Southport and Birmersley) said the Bill gave an example to other areas of local government over the years. There were many reasons for the Bill, and it was not something that people were not used to. He would like to see the Bill passed.

The Bill would give a new era of openness and increased accountability. Mr Allan Roberts (Bosley, Lab) said he believed in open government at all levels, and the Bill would strengthen and support local government.

The Conservative-controlled local authority in Sefton had its own 50-year look on how to avoid the public getting into see what it was doing. It revealed the 14 sub-committees consisted of just a committee chairman or a chairman and vice-chairman.

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America raises its voice to Managua

From Martha Honey, San José, Costa Rica

The first six new Voice of America medium wave transmitters planned for Central America was inaugurated in Costa Rica this week. The 50 Costa Rican transmitter, near the kilowatt border with Nicaragua, was officially opened by President Luis Alberto Monge. President Luis Monge said that despite criticism that it will increase tensions with the leftist Sandinista government.

The \$3.2 million (£2.8 million) project also includes a station called Radio Costa Rica station which broadcasts a combination of Voice of America Spanish and language news programmes and locally produced educational and entertainment programmes.

Radio Costa Rica is owned by a private consortium composed of conservative members of the Costa Rican news media. This "association of information and culture" was created to get round a Costa Rican law prohibiting foreign ownership of radio frequencies.

Sensitive to criticism that the station is aimed at Nicaragua, argue it is designed to provide people in the country's rural northern zone with access to a Costa Rican station.

Mr Curtin Winsor, the US Ambassador to Costa Rica, who participated in the opening ceremony, said in an interview that the station's "primary intent" was "to tell the truth to the people of northern Costa Rica" so as to provide an alternative "to the vile propaganda and hate spewed forth by the regime in Managua and the Cubans."

Mr Ernest Pell, Voice of America's worldwide director, who also attended the inauguration, said another transmitter was being built in Belize and "we are discussing building stations with several [other] countries in the region". He denied that Radio Costa Rica was intended for propaganda against Nicaragua.

● **TEGUCIGALPA:** Nicaraguan troops shelled three villages in Honduras and exchanged fire with Honduran soldiers in two separate incidents on the border, the Honduran Army said. (Reuters reports).

A military communiqué said Nicaraguan troops crossed the border into Choluteca province on Wednesday and exchanged fire with a Honduran patrol for half an hour before withdrawing with one wounded soldier and a "possible fatality".

● **GUATEMALA CITY:** Senator Fernando Andrade the Guatemalan Foreign Minister, has invited the London-based human rights group Amnesty International to visit Guatemala to investigate the country's human rights situation. (Reuters reports).

He said that the group had repeatedly released information about human rights abuses in Guatemala but had never tried to verify its statements.

Chess anger at switch to hotel

Moscow (AP) - The world chess championship is to move from the Hall of Columns in Moscow to the less glittering and more isolated Hotel Sport for Monday's game, officials said yesterday.

The high cost for the Hall of Columns reportedly about £7,500 a day and the record length of the competition that began nearly five months ago are the reasons.

The scheduled game between the world champion, Anatoly Karpov, who leads 5-2, and his challenger Gary Kasparov, was postponed yesterday to allow for the move to the hotel.

The hall was booked, originally for only 78 days from September 10 to November 26, and was then rebooked. Chess sources say that Karpov and Kasparov are both opposed to the change of venue.

Two matches have been postponed for events already booked months ago for the hall, but there has been renewed public interest in recent weeks.

Karpov need only one more win to retain his title.

Briton granted bail after weeks in Egyptian jail

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

One of two Britons held in Cairo since November for their alleged part in a plot to assassinate a former Libyan prime minister has been granted bail by an Egyptian court.

Mr Godfrey Shine, aged 47, from London, has two weeks from which to find sureties of 30,000 Egyptian pounds, according to the Foreign Office yesterday. This is officially equivalent of about £22,000 but much less on the widespread black market.

The Foreign Office also points out that the Egyptian Interior Ministry has 15 days from the date of the hearing in which to appeal against the bail.

Mr Anthony Gill, aged 48, who is also still in detention, with two Maltese, after the uncovering of a plot to kill Mr Abdul Hamid Bakouah, a

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JANUARY

THE TIMES Saturday

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ON YOUR TOES

Up and down the country people are putting their best feet forward - but what's behind this dance explosion? To find out, Judith Mackrell visited Oxford, and discovered a range of forms, from ballet to belly...

Photograph by Colin Curwood at the Oxford Arts Centre



"Life today," observed the American dance pioneer Martha Graham back in 1929, "is nervous, sharp and zigzag. It often steps in mid-air. That is what I am for in my dances. The old balletic forms could not give it voice."

Well, that sort of thing was all very fine for America, but it took a very long time for the more conservative and backward Britons to latch on to that kind of avant-garde leaping about. That it now has in a big way you can tell from all the leg warmers in the streets and all the aching muscles from Fondastyle "feel-the-burn" workouts. Half a century later, we have finally caught up with Martha Graham.

Until the mid-1960s, Britain showed no great enthusiasm for dance; it entertained itself at musicals and occasionally dressed up for the ballet, which it quite unjustly regarded as a rather minor and elitist art form.

Britain certainly did not go to dance classes, other than the Sylvester kind with their idiot cards of where to put your zinnies. A few children went to

ballet or tap lessons, but for an adult to take tuition in anything other than the jive or the quickstep was to risk a chorus of snorting derision, or blank incomprehension.

Now the British dance scene, although grossly underfunded, is flourishing. Professional groups abound, audiences have swelled, and classes are no longer confined to health freaks or foreigners.

The watershed can be traced to 1966 when Robin Howard, a comfortably-off barrister and dance enthusiast, saw the Martha Graham company on a British tour, and was so seized that he put up the money to found the London Contemporary Dance Theatre and an associated school. He brought over the American dancer Robert Cohan, who had performed with Graham for many years, to run the show and bring her technique and style to London.

Graham's style was to free dance from the conventions of ballet and make it express real emotions, abandoning sleeping princesses for the real, brutal world. Instead of the effortless

grace and artificially turned-out feet of the ballerina, there were stark angular movements intended to dramatize the body's struggle with its own limitations.

Britain was soon absorbing the influence of other, widely different, American choreographers. Although contemporary dance may be crudely defined as any "serious" dance that isn't ballet, it is actually a convenient label for a number of very different techniques.

As contemporary dance was establishing itself among several new companies, so a new avant-garde was emerging under the label of New Dance and again absorbing widely differing styles, the most important of which was American Minimalism. This was a 1960s creation by a group of dancers who shunned all virtuosity and spectacle in favour of the body's basic movements; they wanted to show dance as a shared activity, and often used untrained performers to achieve the desired result.

Another influence was Contact Improvisation, in which the movements of a group of dancers are determined by spontaneous exchanges of weight and touch - looking at times like a quiet act of physical communication, at others a dramatic acrobatic display.

Not all the influences have been American. The theatre-oriented work of the German choreographer Pina Bausch has been important, as has recent multi-media developments in which dance is integrated with mime, acting, singing, music and visual arts.

It all makes for a great diversity in today's dance scene, which may explain the enormous popularity of classes among amateurs. Whereas ballet was inaccessible to all but the most dedicated, there are now many more forms to choose from, many of which are less forbidding to the beginner as they involve neither complex movements nor undue strain.

The health and fitness craze which sent half the country rushing off to aerobics also had the effect of sending some of it off to dance classes. Keep-fit has been significant in giving people the interest and confidence to feel they can cope with the demands of more formal kinds of movement.

Though London has been the centre of much of this activity, it has spread throughout the land. At the Oxford Arts Centre, for example, where 10 years ago there was a tiny handful of classes, there are now up to 30 a week.

The range is enormous: ballet, jazz, contemporary and new dance, tap, aerobics, Tai chi, break dancing and body popping. Students range from schoolchildren to pensioners, from beginners to professionals.

Robert Cohan, still artistic director of the London Contemporary Dance Theatre after 19 years, says of its beginnings: "It was important to sow the seed of contemporary dance in Great Britain since, until that time, it was the only contemporary art form which had no expression in this country."

If the purpose of an art form is to reach the people, then Cohan, Martha Graham and the other pioneers have danced away with a resounding success.

BREAK & BODY POPPING

Kids on the rough, tough streets of the Bronx used to beat each other up until they began to have battles in "break dancing" and "body popping". When pop impresario Malcolm MacLaren featured them in his video *Boyz n the City* two and a half years ago, breaking and popping took Britain by storm.

Break, where the dancer dives to the floor and spins round on his or her head, shoulders or hands, owes a lot to jive, while the mechanical movements of body popping can be traced to mime and to robotic disco dancing. Both have now evolved their own sophisticated vocabularies: "top hat" is where one dancer spins upside-down on another's head; "shotgun" is where he hurls himself backwards on to his shoulders and flips back again on to the feet.

Styles in popping range from the self-explanatory "Egyptian" (does anyone remember Wilson, Kepple and Betty?) to "Smurfing" - a sort of jellified wobble. For a "good crew" such as Hard Shoulder from Oxford, the challenge is to invent their own moves. They perform mainly in clubs and discos, but occasionally have to defend their reputation on the streets.

A rival crew named Rock Walk had been mouthing around town that Hard Shoulder were no good, so "we had to dance for an hour and a half before the people of Oxford decided that we were the winners", says Hard Shoulder's Darren James, hamburger bar waiter, aged 18.

None of the crew has had any previous dance experience. They started tentatively in discos and youth clubs, but now practise daily and give regular classes and performances. "We enjoy it for its own sake, and do not think about going professional. But we are irritated when Olympic skaters get full points for doing the simplest break move, while people like us don't get any recognition from the system for what we do."

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She switched in desperation to an aerobics class - "a much

simpler and less traumatic way of getting fit". Within a year she was not only doing the splits without danger to the seams of her leotard, she was teaching her own classes.

But as the medical profession expressed concern about the dangers of aerobics, she began to have mixed feelings. "They are an attractive way of moving to music and getting fit; the exercises are easily picked up, and the absence of any performance element makes them safely anonymous."

But I missed the aesthetic and expressive element; you hit the limits of creativity in aerobics pretty soon."

She also felt under pressure to conform to the professional image of the aerobics teacher as a kind of whitened-down Superwoman and, most importantly for Kati, aerobics left her no time for dancing.

She has given up teaching aerobics now, and instead goes to ballet and jazz classes twice a week: which is, after all, what she wanted to do in the first place.

TAP

Take the intricate footwork of European jigs and clog dances, blend them with the syncopated rhythms of African movement, put them among the 19th century immigrant communities of North America and you have tap-dancing. Blacks and whites used to vie in the streets in tap matches and there was a time in vaudeville when the man with the steel-toed shoes had star billing.

Hollywood glitz in the 1930s brought tap to a wider audience. In the early 1970s in Britain, Twiggy and Tommy Tune in their tap shoes breathed a whole new life into the craze, which shows little sign of dimming.

David Leboff, a geography student aged 22, insists he is no dancer, but always liked "the sound of all that clicking". A visit to a stage production of *Singin' in the Rain* persuaded him to go along to a tap class, in the hope that it might be "less tyrannical than other kinds of dance".

He has stuck with it, becoming addicted to the challenge of getting the steps right and having the satisfaction of showing off at parties and in discos. He does not see the classes as any deep and meaningful way of expressing himself. "It's just a feeling of being in a different world for an hour a week. You're in a room with a dozen or so strangers and all you think about is the music and the steps."

BELLY

Say "belly dancing" to a militant feminist and you may expect a hiss of disapproval. But call it by its original Middle Eastern name of Raks Sharki and you may receive, surprisingly, a nod of approval.

It is one of the oldest known dance forms and as its origins are exclusively female, has become popular among the

American women's movement. Both the folk and classical variants were developed by women in Islamic and pre-Islamic Middle Eastern cultures as a means of celebrating weddings, births and other important festivals - a function it still retains. One theory advanced by American feminists in the 1970s but now hotly disputed suggests that it began as a form of ante-natal exercise. When the Ottoman Empire seized on belly dancing as a popular court entertainment, it was performed to mixed audiences for the first time. The style is very different from Western dance, concentrating on coordinated movements in the torso, hips, shoulders, arms and head, rather than on speed and elevation.

The dance is still performed in Egypt, although one of the greatest living exponents is Saraya Hikal, who works in Europe and was based until recently in Oxford. Katrina Robinson, a 37-year old publishers' editor, remembers being "stunned by the sheer beauty of the movement, the costumes and the music" when she first saw Hikal perform.

"It requires immense suppleness and coordination, but seems to be very satisfying for women of all ages, perhaps because it was developed exclusively for women's bodies. It is also so different from Western styles of movement, that it can be a positive advantage to have had no training whatsoever."

At the age of 10, Lucia Walker took weekly ballet classes and dreamed of becoming a ballerina. But by 14, both she and her teacher realized Lucia was the wrong shape.

She stopped dancing for years until she heard about contemporary dance and attended some classes. They seemed, after ballet, startlingly new and exciting, and they also made her realize that dancing "wasn't just about learning steps, but about discovering all the different kinds of movement the body could make."

Classes in Tai chi (the Far Eastern art of movement meditation) and the Alexander Technique (a therapy based on restoring the body to its natural alignment) led her to an interest in the "inner dynamics" of movement. When she subsequently discovered New Dance and Contact Improvisation, everything clicked into place.

She liked the New Dance way of feeling a movement from the inside rather than learning it through repetition, and she enjoyed its emphasis on relaxation rather than effort.

Lucia is now 28 and a teacher, her classes influenced by the New Dance approach. She feels she can break down the fears of people who consider themselves too fat, too old, or too untalented to dance. "I am", she says, "simply doing something that makes me feel good."

TRAINING

Ballet: Girls should begin professional training at about 10 years, boys a little later. The British Ballet Organisation, Woolborough House, 38 Lonsdale Road, London SW3 748 1241 or the Royal Academy of Dancing, 48 Vicarage Crescent, London SW11 (223 0091) will provide information.

Contemporary dance: Training begins later. Full time courses are available from The London School of Contemporary Dance, 17 Dukes Road, London WC1 (387 0152) and The Laban Centre for Movement and Dance, Goldsmiths College, Lauria Grove, London SE14 (891 5750). Several universities and colleges of higher education also offer dance as a full or part-time course. *Dance in Higher Education*, (£2.75 inc p&p) published by The National Resources Centre for Dance at Surrey University, Guildford (0483 571281) provides further information.

London has several dance centres which tend to concentrate on jazz dance and aerobics. Good sources of information for other dance classes are local education authorities, city or county councils and Regional Arts Associations.

PERFORMANCES

London Contemporary Dance Theatre, London Festival Ballet and Contemporary Dance Theatre are all touring the country during February. Several companies are based in the regions: Scottish Ballet in Glasgow, and English Dance Theatre in Newcastle. Foreign dance companies regularly visit Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (278 8918), Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, London W8 748 3354, and the Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (803 4585). The Umbrella international festival of dance takes place in London every autumn and links up with tours in other parts of the country. The International Festival of New Dance is held annually at Dartington College of Arts, Dartington, Devon (0803 86224).

For further information about classes and performances, specialist dance magazines are invaluable: *Dancing Times*, monthly, 80p; *Dance and Dancers*, monthly, 90p; *Dance Theatre Journal*, quarterly, £1; and *New Dance*, quarterly, £1.

● Dance clothes p13

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TRAVEL 2

Stars, starlets and that damned Cannes moon

It was a weekend for the kind of stinky frock that goes with the... are looking incredibly beautiful in this damned moonlight... Amanda... The setting for a few of the more memorable films in *Private Lives* was perfect: the temptation to rehearse Coward's words irresistible.



Festivities: The battle of flowers at Cannes in 1899

Dusk on the Côte d'Azur in May occurs in stylized shades of pink and blue: our room at the Hotel Martinez, on the front at Cannes, had been decorated to match. The champagne was flowing and the whole effect theatrical, recognizable yet almost unreal.

For reasons of delicious timing, the arrival coincided with the opening of the annual film festival. The weather was perfect, the town packed, and simply everyone was in a festive mood as the wine.

The steps of the town's fairly new convention and festival centre rise as high and wide as they can without leading straight on to the roof. This allows the film people and photographers maximum scope for important-looking hustle and bustle.

The Hotel Martinez, newly restored and modernized to better than its former art deco glory, was showing off too. Freshly transplanted palm trees around the new swimming pool were tall enough to have been there several decades.

Breakfast on the balcony overlooking the beach seemed obligatory. Cushions were being arranged on sun loungers, umbrellas opened, and the new season's fresh paintwork sparkled. But it was not really warm enough yet for the beach so we set off inland, feeling light-hearted as the drophead VW Golf we hired for the fun of having that sort of car for that sort of weekend.

Our goal was Fayence where, before we were married, we had spent three consecutive summer holidays flying gliders from the parched airfield below the village. The word was that you could locate the centre and strongest part of the area's soaring August thermal by the strength of the current of lavender above the hills. It can also be booked through the Leading Hotels of the World organization (01-568 3050). Hertz (01-679 1799) charges £26.85 per day plus 25p per kilometre and 33 per cent tax for a convertible car. Economy models cost £12.11 per day plus 14p per kilometre and tax.

was not much of an exaggeration. In May the airfield was green but nothing else had changed much. New faces asked us if we wanted to fly, a kind offer, but we really only wanted to look at the food.

The village had also altered remarkably little since 1970. There were a few new craft shops in converted houses and the car park had been extended, but if the place attracted more tourists now they were not there so early in the year. *Poulet au pignons* was still on the menu of the Restaurant de l'Hotel de France, its cheeses were indeed *fermieres* and its five course £12 menu was full of good sense and good tastes. It was light, local and not nouvelle.

Dinner was to be a treat. Much less has been written about Roger Verge's two-star restaurant L'Amandier than about his three-star Moulins de Mougins. It proved a rewarding choice. The building, a converted almond press, is white-washed stone and nothing too twee has been done to it. Every

table had a glorious bunch of garden flowers and the service was quiet, a little slow to begin with, and without any of the reverential or flamboyant theatre that spoils so much good food.

The food, when it came, was exceptionally good - robustly flavoured and lightly presented. The £20-a-head set menu included hot fresh foie gras among the main course choices. The cheeses, supplied by the firm of Ceneri in Cannes were superb. I cursed my bad luck at not finding the shop before it closed for the weekend.

The boating population of Cannes is worth inspecting in its harbour habitat. Vessels in use invariably sport a vase of outside gladioli shielded from the wind in the stern cockpit. The most strenuous posing, is done by crews pretending to be owners before the owners arrive. Quite a number of them also go to sea. On Sunday afternoons the sea is dotted with boats.

Air France Holidays (01-568 6981) offers three-night holidays at the Hotel Martinez in Cannes inclusive of flights from London to Nice, transfers to Cannes and bed and breakfast accommodation from £247 per person, Apr 3 - June 30. This price is for one of the bedrooms at the rear of the hotel whose original furniture, authentic Waring and Gillow of the period, has been beautifully restored. For a room on the front there is a gruesomely expensive supplement of £66 per person per night. The Hotel Martinez, 73 La Croisette, 06406 Cannes, Alpes Maritimes, France, (06 9181), can

also be booked through the Leading Hotels of the World organization (01-568 3050). Hertz (01-679 1799) charges £26.85 per day plus 25p per kilometre and 33 per cent tax for a convertible car. Economy models cost £12.11 per day plus 14p per kilometre and tax. L'Amandier de Mougins, Place du Commandant Lamy, 06250 Mougins-Village, Alpes Maritimes, France, (06 0061). Air France (01-499 8611) has daily flights between London and Nice. Club-class costs £244 return. The cheapest fare is a Vacances ticket for £130 return.

A chalet haven for wrinkly skiers

Large though they loom on the ski scene, chalet holidays may not be every skier's glass of *glühwein*. The chalets can seem crowded and there is often a shortage of baths, especially when everyone comes back at once from the slopes and pounds upstairs to change. And it certainly helps to be gregarious. The bedroom walls are often embarrassingly thin and if the party contains more than the one statutory Flooray Henry, the outlook for a restful time can become a trifle bleak.

But that is only one side of the story. If the snow is good and the sun is shining, who really cares? Most chalets are attractively furnished, the other guests can be charming and the food is usually cooked superbly by attractive young ladies with Cordon Bleu diplomas, cut-glass accents and a secret sorrow.

Their food, however, is frequently memorable and always plentiful. There is no coffee and rolls nonsense on a chalet holiday; you get a decent breakfast to brace you for the skiing, and afternoon tea with cakes and buns when the guests totter in from the slopes each evening. If teatime runs over there is usually still time to get out of the hard-hitting gear and go-faster pants for a hot bath before dinner.

The upper age limit for guests, has been steadily extended. As one chalet girl told me, "The dinner table conversation has improved no end since we let a few wrinklies join our groups". Most chalet companies still invoke a minimum age rule, and very small children are not normally permitted on mixed parties, although families can always hire a complete chalet for themselves.

There were quite a few older travellers on our trip with Snowtime to Meribel in France and they soon wore the young ones to their knees, either on the slopes or at the discos later.



Jolly jaspers: Loads of fun and food but not exactly a restful holiday

Meribel is a very popular spot for chalet party holidays and is usually full of British groups who find it the central place for skiing the vast and varied snowfields of the Trois-Vallees.

Trois-Vallees skiing is based on the combined resources of four resorts. Courchevel, Meribel, Val Thorens and Les Menuires, which together total some 120 lifts and about 400 miles of downhill piste, with plenty of deep powder for the experts and the renowned *lineaire* run from Val Thorens over the mountains and down a yawning slope back to Meribel-Moutaret, to sort the men from the boys.

The day began early, with the usual hearty breakfast and a leap into the chalet mini-bus for a short ride to the foot of the main lift. Frantic skiing over the mountains that followed, broken by a prolonged stop for lunch, and then more frantic skiing in the afternoon, out to the nearby resorts of Courchevel or Les Menuires, before rushing back to the chalet for tea and a bath. Dinner was well up to the usual and expected

Cordon Bleu standards; the wine flowed and the lies about the day's exploits out in that white hell grew with the telling, at least until disco time.

There is one main disco in Meribel, the Saint-Pere, which was surprisingly inexpensive for a French resort and, being not too noisy, a wrinklies' haven. Otherwise evenings were spent

in one of the several pleasant bars, or back at the chalet chatting to the girls and drowning the Secret Sorrow. Once a week the chalet girls get a well deserved evening off, and that night we sallied out in a party to Kiki's restaurant, and had a splendid meal, almost up to the chalet standard, for just under £10 a head.

The chalet girls can make or break a chalet holiday, and it is worth looking after them. As an opening gesture we took care to arrive with some English papers and magazines, which cost a fortune in the Alps, and we offered to do the washing-up at least once. When we left, the statutory whip-round among the guests gave the chalet girls a present as a small token for a job well done.

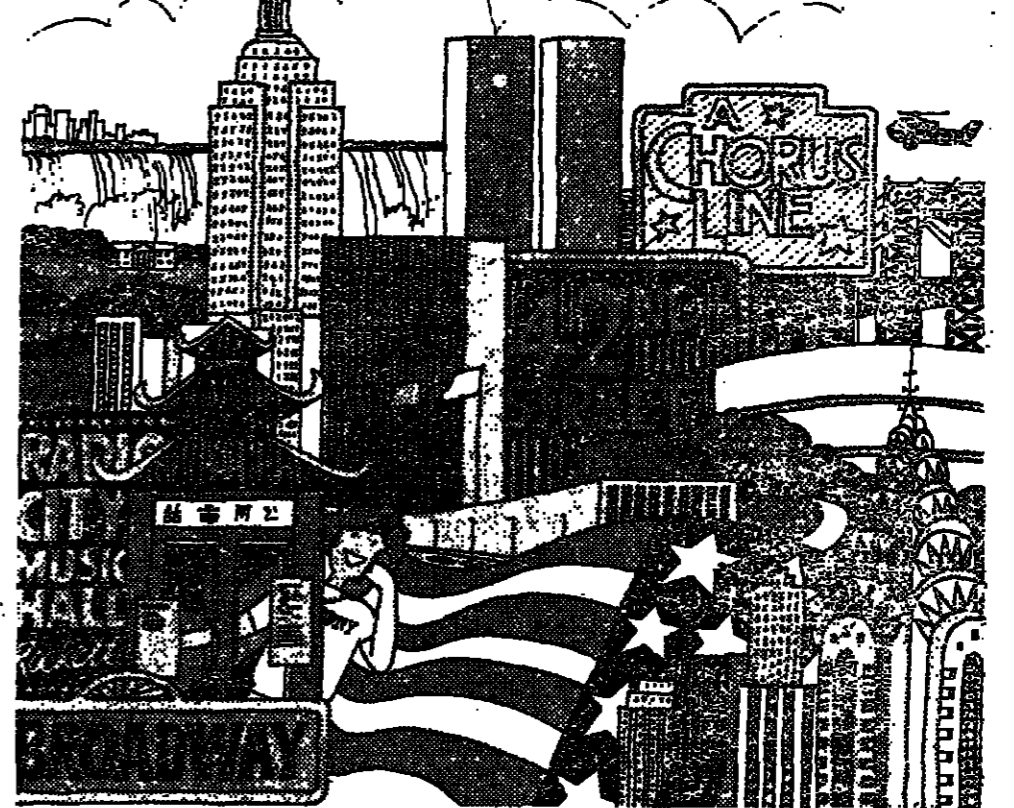
Rob Neillands



Major chalet ski operators are John Morgan Travel, Meon House, Petersfield, Hampshire (0730 68621) who grade all chalets and describe the accommodation in detail; Small World Chalet Skiing, 850 Brighton Road, Purley, Surrey (01-660 3999); Snowtime, which specializes in Meribel, 23 Denmark Street, London WC2H 8NA (01-835 3237) and Ski an Do Holidays, 14 Stafford Street, Edinburgh, Scotland (031 226 5626).

More travel on page 13

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VALUES

Steps in style

Photographs by Andy Lank; hair by Sissy Door; make-up by Mary Ellen Lamb for Maybelline

So you want to dance? Christine Painell puts you on a fashionable footing

Fashion and fitness move hand in hand in the athletic 1980s. Fun, figure-bugging leotards and tights are worn by all ages and sizes in dance studios that have opened country-wide.

Clothes to complement your chosen exercise or dance style are available from High Street stores. Your fit-kit for aerobics, jazz or contemporary dance will be a coordinated trio of leotard, dance tights and legwarmers. On top go tracksuit trousers and/or a baggy T-shirt for warming up and covering figure faults.

It is best to begin a class with a sort of dress rehearsal, attending as a spectator at a studio (some studios have plate glass windows) before you splash out on dance clothes and shoes for a method that may not suit you.

Today's leotard is a skilfully-engineered item of clothing: a brightly coloured second skin that will spur you on. When choosing from the many variations on the leotard theme, comfort should be a priority; the tight, taut Dallas-style that is cut high on the thighs will ride up even on the most finely-sculpted figure. Find a style that flatters you now, rather

than the body beautiful you may wish to achieve.

The most popular leotard is sleeveless and vest-shaped, based on swimsuit lines (sometimes doubling for the pool) and perhaps with a deep, plunging back. The blouson leotard on an elasticated hip and with batwing-sleeves is body-skimming rather than bulge-revealing (look for the Dans-Ez and Fitness Centre Clothing labels).

Half leotards, which pull up to under the bust, and the dance briefs (to the waist) are worn with a sweatshirt or dance "sweater" to give a sense of freedom. It is sensible to wear a bra, however, especially for aerobics or disco dance classes. All-in-ones, or unitards, mould to body curves and are more flattering worn with sporty trousers or shorts.

ACCESSORIES

Optional accessories for stretch, aerobics and body conditioning classes include plastic "sweat" pants, which do not help you to lose weight but will keep muscles warm. They also come as baggy bloomers with elasticated legs and dungarees called "hi-tops".

Headbands have found a new home at the waist as a dance belt. Tie your hair, instead, with a covered elastic band and grips.

MENSWEAR

Men have also been affected by the health and fitness craze, working out in simple white sports vests that are cool and also show well-toned shoulders, tracksuit pants and legwarmers. For the gym, Speedo make a small classic range of nylon leotard, brief shorts and stirrup trousers in navy or cream, available from selected sports-wear shops.

FOOTWEAR

The correct footwear is essential for any dance class. Running shoes with firm support are worn for aerobic workouts. American Reebok

all-weather trainers are popular with teachers (stocked at Dance Works in London, about £29). Jogging for an hour in bare feet or plimsolls can damage your tendons.

The jazz shoe stepped out of the studio and into the street last summer - hot on its heels comes the ankle-high jazz boot. Both are worn for jazz or any contemporary dance, made in leather or suede on rubber or suede soles.

Freed of London stock jazz shoes in 22 colours. Pineapple Dance Studios have a wide range of shoes, including children's, and are launching a new range of fashion and active dance shoes that will be available country-wide from March.

CASUAL CHIC

The glossy image of aerobics has been rejected in the "new dance" and advanced contemporary classes. The dancers dress down in easy-fitting army surplus-style trousers and faded T-shirts in drab colours or the unstructured, fluid clothes of Japanese designers like Issey Miyake and Comme des Garçons.

BALLET MODE

Ballet classes are a sharp contrast to the general workout class, retaining their poise and classic lines. Leotard styles depend on the uniform of the school and are usually pink or black and may have a skirt

attached. Tutus are worn for performances only.

In trendy dance studios, ballet students can wear T-shirts, gripped at waist with a wide elasticated belt. Leather shoes are recommended as they give to the feet and clean up easily. Satin is more flexible initially and more suitable for children. Sizing is different from outdoor shoes (given on the sole in brackets).

TAPPING GEAR

Tap dancing clothes are sombre all-black leotard, mesh tights and tap shoes (which may be coloured) and are sized roughly the same as outdoor shoes. Children wear white knee-length socks.

BELLY ROBES

The sensual rolling action from waist to hips in belly dancing means clothes that reveal movement and give the correct sense of body proportions. A leotard, tights and tracksuit trousers folded down to the hips or long scarf or heavy belt are worn by beginners. At a certain standard, the teacher may suggest you make your own costume of panelled skirt, weighted coin belt. Belly dancing is done bare foot.

Many studios have showers and sometimes saunas, so remember to take toiletries and a towel. Wrap up well afterwards - keeping warm can mean fewer over-stretched muscles and aching joints.

WHERE TO GO

Marks and Spencer and Debenhams stores sell women's colour co-ordinated leotards and tights.

Dance Works, 16 Balderton Street, W1, stock exclusive French dancewear and children's clothes. Pineapple Dance shops, 7 Langley Street, WC2; 60 Paddington Street, W1; 38-42 Harrington Road, SW7; 54 South Molton Street, W1. Mail order colour catalogue from Pineapple, 66 Langley Street, WC2. Wide range of leotards, shoes and children's dancewear, ballet clothes and shoes.

The Dance Centre, 12 Floral Street, London WC2, are selling off their stock at reduced prices as their studios have been bought by Bridget Woods the Fitness Centre (next door). Her futuristic-looking bodywear is sold at Way In, Harrods and Whistles shops.

Backstage (ballet wear) make ballet leotards and all-in-ones for up to 50in bust (£7.85-£21.75). Shop is at 10 Deer Walk, Indoor Shopping Centre, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire; mail order brochure from 175 High Street, Stoney Stratford, Milton Keynes (Spad's a.s.).

Freed of London, 94 St Martin's Lane, WC2; 810 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Ballet, tap and jazz shoes for men, women and children. Dance shoes can be made to order.

Gamba, 3 Garrick Street, WC2. Ballet, contemporary dance and tap shoes.

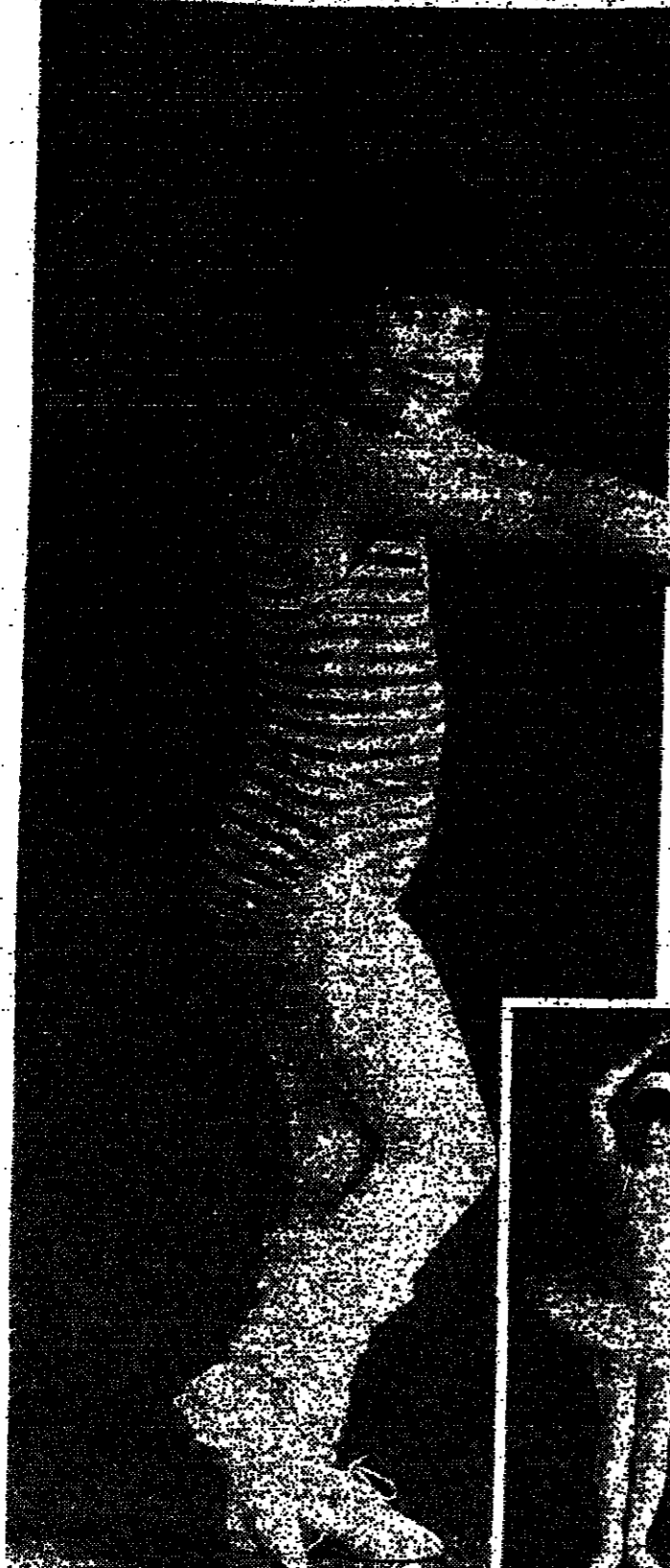
Anello and Davide, 94 Charing Cross Road, London WC2. Ballet and tap shoes.



Left: Sunny yellow grandad top £24.99; yellow sleeveless cotton/Lycra all-in-one £22.99; cotton interlock belt £4.99. Also red, royal blue, black, white. By Buzz Sportswear from selected Debenhams stores. Legwarmers £5.99, from Pineapple Dance Shops, 7 Langley Street, London WC2 and branches.

Below: Shiny black high-cut leotard with red webbing belt £14.99, bright blue nylon/Lycra stirrup tights £12.99 by The Fitness Centre from John Lewis; Way In Harrods; Liberty; Whistles Shops, Covent Garden and branches; Cruise, Glasgow; Chintz, Watford and St Albans. Black canvas and rubber "breakers" £7.99 girls', £9.99 women's.

Bottom: Pink and white striped cotton/Lycra leotard approx £13, pink cotton interlock shorts £10.80, cotton/Lycra stirrup tights £16 and legwarmers by Giza, also blue, khaki, black with white from Fenwick, New Bond Street, W1 and sports and department stores.



Above: Child's turquoise and white cotton/Lycra leotard £9.99, leather jazz shoes £11.99 from Pineapple Dance Shop, 60 Paddington Street, W1; 38-42 Harrington Road, SW7; 54 South Molton Street, W1. Mail-order from Pineapple, 66 Langley Street, WC2. Adult's ankle warmers make child's legwarmers, £1.73 from Freed's.

Left: 'Parisian' tutu, white or pink, from £12.45-£16.80, tights and pumps, Freed's, 94 St Martin's Lane, WC2.

From fat to fit with a simple routine

Beryl Downing with some helpful advice for the overweight

These of us who have dedicated our lives to the survival of the fittest react to the idea of fitting up in a leotard with some alarm. While the rest of the world is auditioning to join the Tiller girls, what alternative exercise is there for us?

On Thursday all the answers will be supplied at the start of a three-day Fitness Forum to be held in the first-floor gym at Lillywhites, Piccadilly Circus. There will be experts on hand to test your fitness, demonstrate equipment and recommend a tailor-made exercise programme for each visitor.

In addition, Vernon Crew from the Health Education Council and organizer of their Look After Yourself Project will be talking about aspects of health and fitness. His theme is one that even the most sluggish will warm to - "only do what you need to do".

"Don't be excessive or unsafe", he says. "Not everybody has to be a professional and general health and well-being are quite different from competition fitness. People often push themselves to the limits because they don't know what they are trying to achieve. We will not be talking about agility and power, which is needed in professional sport. What we will be looking at is suppleness, suitable

strength for the task attempted and stamina."

Mini fitness tests will be given by instructors from Areas Health Club which, with Tunturi, the exercise equipment makers, is sponsoring the event.

Interest in equipment for home-use is certainly growing - sales are already up a third on last year, say Lillywhites and in response to this trend they are equipping one bedroom as a fully fitted gymnasium in the Wimpsey house at this year's Ideal Home exhibition.

A multi-gym, which takes up about as much room as a single bed, costs nearly £439 for a free-standing version (£349 if attached to the wall), but simple weights cost from £17.95 to £52.95 and exercise bikes are available from £89.95 to £199.

It's best to try these bikes before you buy - I found the more expensive versions really do give a much smoother action as they have a better resistance control, and you will be more likely to use any piece of equipment more regularly if it is comfortable.

If you are serious about improving your pulse rate, there

are meters which you can attach to the bike and then clip to your ear lobe to monitor your progress. The Tunturi Pulse-meter costs £75.95 at Lillywhites and will also give you a metronome beat to keep you steady in time.

There seems to be little doubt that we have been unduly complacent about our health until recently. While America, Australia and Scandinavia have all reduced their incidence of heart disease, we still have one of the highest coronary death rates in the world.

Now, however, health authorities, once sceptical about organized exercise, are asking for the Health Education Council's (HEC) Look After Yourself programme for their areas. It is a five-year, £2m plan which includes support for adult education classes and a new "workplace project" which started last September.

This is an eight or 10-week programme of two hours a week with a tutor, and the courses are held at the premises of any business organization.

The cost of the programme, including the tutor, is about

£200 for the 10 weeks - the aim of the HEC is not to make a profit but simply to cover costs, and as Vernon Crew points out, "many companies pay £300 a day for consultants and think nothing of it". Moreover, a healthy work-force is a working work-force. A survey in 1979/80 showed that of 358 million days of certified sick-leave taken by working men and women in Britain, 26 million were accounted for by coronary heart disease.

Just in case you still think that if you lie down quietly this unattractive disease for self-improvement will go away, then be warned. The HEC is even now planning its Great British Fun Run which will involve dedicated runners to take part in a relay race round England, Wales and Scotland from May 27 to June 22. At the same time there will be 80 health fairs round the country and lots of participatory events - even for people who have not taken exercise for a long time.

"Fitness Forum" is at Lillywhites, Piccadilly Circus, London W1 (930 3181) on Thurs (noon-7pm), Fri (11am-4pm) and Sat 9 (11am-5pm).

Details of programmes are available from Look After Yourself Project Centre, Christchurch College, Canterbury (0227 455564).

How fit are you?

With all this activity going on you might as well take a "can't beat 'em, join 'em" attitude and start right now by finding out just how unfit you are.

The following tests are devised by the Health Education Council and will be in their new booklet. You should find the first one quite easy but the other two are more demanding. If you have any history of high blood pressure, heart disease or any other illness, don't do them.

Test 1: Try walking up and down a flight of stairs (about 15 steps) three times, fairly briskly. You should be able to hold an ordinary conversation without being at all out of breath.

Test 2: Run on the spot. Lift your feet at least six inches off the floor. Keep going until you start to feel a bit short of breath. Then stop. Don't force yourself. If you are over 50 you should be able to manage two minutes comfortably. Younger people should find three minutes easy.

Test 3: Using either the second step of the stairs or a firm bench or strong chair, step up and down briskly, alternating your leading foot. Stop as soon as you feel a bit puffed or tired. If you are over 50 and reasonably fit, you should be able to hold a conversation without being too short of breath after two minutes of stepping. A fit under-50-year-old should still be able to manage this after three minutes.

The Great British Fun Run Handbook from local district health authorities in mid-April.

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TRAVEL NEWS

The Government is studying the possibility of introducing an insurance scheme to protect the public against the failure of package-tour operators. Mr Michael Spicer, the Under-Secretary for Transport, has said in a written Commons answer that the interim conclusion of a study by the Bowring (UK) insurance group was that an insurance-based protection scheme could be a "very feasible" option.

The study was commissioned by Sir Kenneth Selby, chairman of the Government-backed Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency, who says the cost of an insurance protection scheme could be as little as £1 per holiday and that in the event of a collapse, holidaymakers could receive refunds "within hours rather than years".

Leading tour operators are sceptical about the advantages of consumer protection through insurance as compared with the current bonding system. Mr Harry Chandler, president of the Tour Operators' Study Group, says an insurance scheme would merely prop up weaker operators at the expense of the stronger companies, many of which can already provide the Civil Aviation

Authority with copper-bottomed financial guarantees at no cost to themselves.

The Government is due to make a decision on the future pattern of protection for holidaymakers by the summer.

Beat the bucket-shops

Pickfords Travel has taken on the air-fare bucket-shops by introducing a computerized "Farefinder" system at all its 225 branches throughout the country. The system gives an instant choice of low-cost fares to all major European airports and more than 200 long-haul destinations.

The company says that the comparatively few bucket-shops in the provinces usually charge a premium for flights to long-haul destinations, while Pickfords' fares are standard throughout the country.

Greece on a budget

A programme of summer holidays to Greece aimed at young travellers on a limited budget has been launched by Olympic Holidays. Accommodation is based on camping sites, village rooms, tavernas and small hotels and basic prices in the low season are generally less than £200 for two weeks. The cheapest offer is £89 for a one-week camping holiday on Corfu.

TRAVEL 3

Insurance? Bonding is enough, operators say



Illingworth (left) and Milburn

Charters for cricketers

Cricketing enthusiasts can polish their skills on board P&O's Canberra during a special cruise from Southampton in September. A team of resident cricketers will be led by the BBC's cricket correspondent, Christopher Martin-Jenkins, and will include Tom Graveney, Colin Milburn, Ray Illingworth and Richard Hurton. They will organize coaching on board the Canberra and will also take part in friendly games at Corfu and Gibraltar.

Fares fair from BA

Cheaper air fares to Austria and Belgium have been announced by British Airways. The cheapest return fare from Heathrow to Vienna has been cut by £50 to £145, but tickets must be bought at least 14 days in advance. The cheapest return

Charter a Concorde

A chance to fly on a Concorde charter to Baltimore and return by submarine jet for a round-trip fare of £399 is being offered by a specialist trans-Atlantic tour operator, American Airplan. The special offer is available only on one departure from Heathrow, on April 25, but passengers have a choice of return dates during May, and package holidays in Washington can be linked to the Concorde flight. Information from travel agents or from American Airplan on Walton-on-Thames (0932) 246166.

Disabled choice

A wide variety of holidays and courses suitable for handicapped adults and children are listed in the 1985 Holiday Guide published by the charity PHAB (Physically Handicapped and Able-Bodied). PHAB is based at Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HX (01-388 1963).

Package by Greyhound

Greyhound Lines has expanded its programme of city packages to cover 45 destinations throughout the United States and Canada. The packages are based on two nights' accommodation and include all hotel taxes, as well as sightseeing in some cases. Prices start at \$45 (about £40) for a package in Flagstaff (Arizona), which is a good touring base for the area round the Grand Canyon.

fare from London to Brussels is being cut from £84 to £69, and from Manchester to Brussels the fare comes down from £107 to £88. All these new fares require a stay at the destination over a Saturday night.

Philip Ray

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IN THE GARDEN

How to bring a long winter's tale to a colourful climax



Old favourites: The hardy winter aconite, now called Eranthus hyemalis...

Our climate is as changeable as in the world but bulbs tolerate British weather and there is a wide range available.

Bulbs under snow are protected and often suffer less than those in exposed positions; bulbs in the protection of shrubs are also better off than those planted in the open.

One of the first plants to flower after the thaw will be the winter aconites, which are remarkably hardy and accept a wide range of conditions.

with yellow flowers open to show masses of stamens; usually seen February/March. E. Tubergeni has larger flowers of the same colouring but the form E. cilicica has larger flowers again.

Among the next to flower are the Crocus chrysanthus varieties, usually seen from the end of this month depending on the weather and site.

Ashley Stephenson offers some advice on how to make the most of the weeks leading up to spring

Iris reticulata is a March flowerer; plants reach no more than 6in, and are stiff upright specimens with flowers proud of the foliage. The type reticulata has blue to purple flowers with a distinct yellow flash on the falls, and a number of good forms have been derived from it.

Chionodoxa is aptly named Glory of the Snow, although we rarely have snow in late March/April. It is ideal to naturalize and very free flowering once established.

Fritillaria variegata. Changeable Chequerboard Daffodil.



... and Fritillaria variegata, both from a 17th-century edition of Gerard's Herbal

Wall gloss

One of my favourite winter shrubs is Garrya elliptica, an evergreen with attractive glossy foliage, and catkins which hang in large bunches from the branches.

Paying the penalty for aggression

"How stupid of me, I would normally make that contract in my sleep". My partner's contraction was justified because he is normally a most capable card player.

I was swiftly able to put his mind at rest. Preoccupied with other things, I have played very little tournament bridge for the last year.

Teams: North-South Game Dealer North.

Bridge hand diagram showing cards for North and South.

Rose's aggressive three no trumps showed a misplaced trust in my card play. In fairness it is an awkward hand, because two tricks have to be discovered before the defenders discover the diamond weakness.

The heart lead to East's 10 left me in hand with the 10. I crossed to dummy with a top club and played a spade. West winning my 10 with the 10. Without giving the matter much thought, West continued with the 10. Superficially the normal "guess" is to run this to the 10.

If you intend to visit a wildfowl reserve in winter, dress warmly and wear waterproof boots as by definition, these areas are often wet, windy and cold.

Entrance fees vary at each centre but at all children under four are admitted free and every second child in a party also gets free admission.

It was a perplexing and embarrassing moment. Surely I hadn't miscalculated my tricks. It was Rose who solved the enigma. "What is that?" he inquired, pointing accusingly at the 10 still nesting impotently in my hand.

It was a common form of loss of concentration, caused by playing one trick ahead of the other. As our opponents in the room played in two no trumps, my error turned a potential gain of 10 IMPs into a loss of 6 IMPs.

Rose and I changed seats, but without improving our results. Game all. Dealer South.

Bridge hand diagram showing cards for North and South.

Mildly encouraged by me, Rose hurried into six hearts. If his bidding was aggressive on the previous hand, this was real kamikaze stuff.

In the other room North-South prudently stopped in four hearts. Sheehan led the 10. Dixon won and returned a second diamond, which declarer inadvisably ruffed. Declarer cashed dummy's 10 and 10 and finessed the 10. Sheehan ducked smoothly.

But when he repeated the spade finesse Sheehan won with 10 and persisted with a diamond. This presented declarer with an insoluble problem. If he ruffed in dummy he could not return to hand without fatally shortening his trumps, so he ruffed in hand and played a spade. Sheehan ruffed this and offered another fourth round of diamonds. Struggle as he might, declarer could make no more than eight tricks.

It was a curious way to gain 3 IMPs but a just reward for Sheehan's defence. The only snag was it failed to underline Rose's excessive exuberance.

Jeremy Flint

The International Hexagonal Chess Federation is at 51 Ryehouse Road, London SW16 6DL (843 4441).

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DRINK

Comfort in the cold for Champagne

The French are freezing. You may think that our January cold snap with its sub-zero temperatures was bad enough, but the French have experienced positively Siberian conditions and this could well have worrying repercussions in the vineyards.

Few regions appear to have escaped the frost and snow; the Loire actually froze over completely (bursting a bridge or two along the way) and the -20°C temperatures recorded in the area were the lowest since 1884.

The more northerly champagne vineyards suffered an even frostier fate with temperatures dropping as low as -23°C, again the lowest noted during the past 100 years.

Bordeaux is not having a mild winter either, the -16°C of a fortnight ago was the lowest recorded temperature since the winter of 1956 which killed or damaged hundreds of hectares of vines.

It will not be until March, when the first green buds appear on the vines, that the damage can be calculated accurately.

A few Champenois are already gloomily predicting another 1956 or 1879 while others such as Christian de Billy of Pol Roger remain, for the moment, "fairly optimistic".

But it is not all bad news from Champagne this month. The latest figures from the region show that last year Britain imported more champagne than ever before - almost 12 million bottles - and that is even including our champagne holidays in the 1800s.

Robert Billion is a well-known name in the champagne world; for 30 years he managed the famous house of Salon le Mesnil, whose celebrated but rare champagnes are much admired by champagne buffs.

I tasted it blind against Krug's new Blanc de Blancs, the '79 Clos du Mesnil, also made from Chardonnay grapes grown in a small walled vineyard at Le Mesnil-sur-Oger. M. Billion wine won hands down and.



priced at just £10.40 (The champagne House, 15 Dawson Place, London W2) rather than the £50 or so of Krug's Mesnil (if it were commercially available that is) it has to be one of the all time bargain buys.

There are two vintage points for visitors - a hide for the general public and for members, a swan observatory, a semi-circular glass fronted room from which one can see the birds at close quarters.

Feeding time is a glorious sight, reminiscent of a Venetian regatta, as mutes and Bewicks, greylags and European white-fronted geese, wigeon and pintail, Atlantic harlequin and red-crested pochards paddle and jostle and dive for grain.

There is hardly any water to be seen - and that adding and churning as the hundreds of birds tear at it; and the noise is near deafening.

We moved on to the visitor centre which houses a shop, display areas, exhibitions, a film theatre and an education unit. Conservationist themes prevail. With the constant erosion, reclamation and development of wetland areas throughout much of the world, all wildfowl are in the long term endangered.

I toured some of the other pens, to see majestic black swans, sociable barnacle geese (which will feed from your hand), and a rare red-breasted goose and other exotic fowl.

Of these the most eccentric, colourful and altogether unlikely are the flamingos. They live in well-defined social groups, where roles are delineated (every colony for example will have its own crèche, where the young are kept together under the watchful eyes of

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Wildfowl watchers: A family on the lookout at the sanctuary in Arundel

"saunties" - non-breeding females). Fascinating though they were, it was the wild visitors we had primarily come to see, so we made our way out towards the Severn Estuary, past several hides to the Holden Tower, which provides a magnificent view over the wetlands.

I was lucky, I saw flights of geese swoop low over the estuary before wheeling away into the horizon; and pairs of

breakaway Bewicks cropping the grass, then settling in strikingly elegant positions; we also saw a lone peregrine, perched high in the branches of a dead tree, looking for unwary wigeon on which to prey. And a lone duck, supposedly wounded, frogeared in a still-ice or the water's edge.

Later, talking to Michael Ounsted, the curator, I learnt that it was the noise of the guns rather than the fatal wounds

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FAMILY LIFE

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and anything that spoils their grazing is therefore damaging. They will not be leaving just yet. Towards the end of this month or the beginning of March, the moment will arrive. It is an indescribably beautiful sight. A few dedicated enthusiasts will wait for days so as not to miss it. In the meantime, if you have the opportunity to brave the elements to visit Slimbridge, or one of the six other reserves, it is well worth it.

Judy Froshaug

If you intend to visit a wildfowl reserve in winter, dress warmly and wear waterproof boots as by definition, these areas are often wet, windy and cold.

Entrance fees vary at each centre but at all children under four are admitted free and every second child in a party also gets free admission.

It was a perplexing and embarrassing moment. Surely I hadn't miscalculated my tricks. It was Rose who solved the enigma. "What is that?" he inquired, pointing accusingly at the 10 still nesting impotently in my hand.

It was a common form of loss of concentration, caused by playing one trick ahead of the other. As our opponents in the room played in two no trumps, my error turned a potential gain of 10 IMPs into a loss of 6 IMPs.

Rose and I changed seats, but without improving our results. Game all. Dealer South.

Mildly encouraged by me, Rose hurried into six hearts. If his bidding was aggressive on the previous hand, this was real kamikaze stuff.

In the other room North-South prudently stopped in four hearts. Sheehan led the 10. Dixon won and returned a second diamond, which declarer inadvisably ruffed. Declarer cashed dummy's 10 and 10 and finessed the 10. Sheehan ducked smoothly.

But when he repeated the spade finesse Sheehan won with 10 and persisted with a diamond. This presented declarer with an insoluble problem. If he ruffed in dummy he could not return to hand without fatally shortening his trumps, so he ruffed in hand and played a spade. Sheehan ruffed this and offered another fourth round of diamonds. Struggle as he might, declarer could make no more than eight tricks.

It was a curious way to gain 3 IMPs but a just reward for Sheehan's defence. The only snag was it failed to underline Rose's excessive exuberance.

Jeremy Flint

The International Hexagonal Chess Federation is at 51 Ryehouse Road, London SW16 6DL (843 4441).

Send for FREE brochure and net samples.

Agriframes Ltd. Brochure No 027. Charwood Road, East Grinstead, Sussex RH19 2HG.

Ring 0342 28644 (24 hours)

Outings

STORYTELLING FESTIVAL: Four sessions today - two for younger children at 11am and 12.30pm, another at 5pm and at 7.30pm, a grand story-telling finale.

AVENA PUPPET COMPANY WITH SPIKE: Puppet mime show about a boy in a rubbish dump.

12.30pm. Tickets 50p. Special children's lunches available.

DREAMS OF WILD HORSES: February season of the ICA Children's Cinema club starts today with The Black Stallion and with Black Beauty.

DOUBLE CELEBRATION OF INSECTS IN 1985: This year the Royal Entomological Society celebrates the centenary of its Royal Charter, and their 150th anniversary in 1983.

SPRINGFIELDS HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION: In an area renowned for the beauty of its bulbs, an exhibition of landscaped flowerbeds grown from bulbs, corns and tubers.

ONE Lord H. D. Baskerville toyed with the idea in 1929; so did a certain Viennese engineer, Siegmund Wellisch, in 1912. But the true originator was a Polish schoolboy and an Thursday, nearly 50 years later, the "schoolboy" will attempt to put his invention on a sound commercial footing at the Nuremberg Toy Fair.

HOW TO PLAY: The nine pawns are set in front of the two pieces forming a diamond shape with the bishops in the middle (diagram).

Today, thanks to Gliniski who moved to Britain after the Second World War, hex chess (as the enthusiasts call it) has an international headquarters in the unlikely spot of Sutton, south London.

Proof of this is the present British champion, Simon Triggs. He was only 10 when first showing the new game, having learnt the squareboard game a few months before. "I didn't have time to think how

Chess

Two new sides to the oldest board game

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مکان من الأصيل

Advertisement for Westwood Garden Tractors, featuring a tractor image and text: "THIS WEEDS RAKES & SPIKES FOR A MUCH HEALTHIER LAWN & IT'S FREE!"

Advertisement for Westwood Garden Tractors, featuring a tractor image

Rock & jazz records of the month

REVIEW

Southern rock and holy rollers

Even by the standards of pop music, 'The Elvis Medley' is a nasty piece of work. Currently on its way up the charts, it is a compilation single in which half a dozen of Presley's most famous hits have been edited together into the sort of confection suitable for those whose attention span cannot even extend to two and a half minutes of 'Jailhouse Rock'.

The really pernicious element is the addition of overdubbed guitars and drums, holding the old tracks together like so many grubby strips of sticking plaster over gaping wounds. One does not have to believe in 'Hound Dog' as great art to see in this heightened production an act of cultural vandalism.

How mystifying, then, that the same company should be responsible for 'Elvis: A Golden Celebration', a slip-cased set of six discs released to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the singer's birth, and probably amounting to the most valuable release since his death in 1977.

Its centrepiece is a recording of two concerts Presley gave at the Mississippi-Alabama Fair and Dairy Show in Tupelo, Mississippi, the town of his birth, on September 26, 1956 - named 'Elvis Presley Day' in honour of the success which at that very moment had taken him to first and second positions in the American hit parade with 'Don't Be Cruel' and 'Hound Dog'.

A raucous memorial to the great years of a very chequered career

Four further songs were discovered, so the sleeve notes say, in a cupboard in Graceland, Presley's Memphis mansion. 'My Heart Cries For You', 'Write To Me From Naples', 'Suppose' and, in particular, 'Dark Moon' are wonderful examples of Elvis's ballad singing: the archetypes of the oily young rocker and the greasy middle-aged Las Vegas entertainer fall away, leaving a voice capable, within a clearly-defined boundary, of great sensitivity and interpretational intelligence.

black Holiness and Pentecostal churches of Macon, Georgia, could hardly make such a claim, since the raving of 'Tutti Frutti' and 'Rip It Up' came directly from the memory of 'speaking with tongues', a lowering of the inhibitions which clearly suited the young Richard Penniman's volatile temperament and unconventional personality.

British fans will be able to salute him next month when he comes here to promote Charles White's book 'The Life and Times of Little Richard', to be published on March 8 by Pan (£2.95). His scheduled television appearances include 'The South Bank Show' on March 3.

His Greatest Recordings is exactly what it professes to be, 16 tracks recorded for the Specialty label between 1955 and 1957, mostly at a congenial studio in New Orleans with a bunch of the finest rhythm 'n' blues musicians of the time, including the powerful saxophonists Red Tyler and Lee Allen and the incomparably authoritative drummer Earl Palmer.

The purist, most potent rock 'n' roll ever distilled, this really is the stuff to have the grown-ups spluttering with rage.

Penniman subsequently re-recorded practically all of these songs without managing to reproduce the initial impact, and this anthology, remastered to preserve the full monaural raucousness of the original 78s and 45s, is the best memorial to the great years of a very chequered career.

By comparison, Garnet Mimms hardly had a career at all, yet 'Warm and Soulful' fully supports the opinion that he was one of the outstanding soul singers of the middle Sixties.

From the raw mix of blues and gospel in 'Cry Baby' and 'For Your Precious Love' to the suave uptown surfaces of 'It Was Easier To Hurt Her' and 'It's Been Such A Long Way Home', Mimms was a superb exponent of 'deep soul'.

With rare exceptions, it was an approach avoided by the influential Motown and Stax companies. As the authentic sound of broken hearts, deep soul was manufactured in the margins; the appearance of 'Warm and Soulful' demonstrates, that its intensity can speak across generations.

Sound sensations: Wild and volatile, Little Richard lets rip in his potent rock 'n' roll recordings from the 1950s. Elvis Presley (below) at his triumphant homecoming to Tupelo in 1956, with The Jordanaires and guitarist Scotty Moore



Paradox, pastiche and a one-man band

Comebacks are not generally considered a good thing. Either the artist has little new to say, or has been overtaken by events and fashions.

John Fogerty, an American rock superstar in the early 1970s, provides an exception. His comeback album, Centerfield, will delight anyone with fond memories of Creedence Clearwater Revival, his former band.

Centerfield finds his vocal riches untainted by age, his hold on rock 'n' roll or bayou beat as economic and powerful as ever. He possesses a storehouse of American musical tradition, charting a line from Son House and Howlin' Wolf via the country crooners of the 1930s to the pop stylists of the 1960s. He is apt to echo this past but it is too smart to attempt anything alien.

Fogerty is again a one-man band on his third solo album. He no longer calls himself the Blue Ridge Rangers but he still manages to sound like an early Sun Records' group on 'Big Train (From Memphis)' with references to that company's great stars, the guitarist Scotty Moore and Elvis Presley in the lyric. On 'The Old Man Down The Road' he resembles a one-man band - recalling the textures and timing of Bob Dylan's remarkable backing group.

But these techniques never interfere with the song structures which often recall Creedence. The passionate and angry 'Mr Greed' is a successful update of 'Fortunate Son' which was, perhaps, his finest work. What impresses about Centerfield is that Fogerty, despite his wealth and achievement, still finds the inspiration to record and has lost none of his initial impact. Small wonder that Bruce Springsteen, no slouch in the all-American rock hero stakes, holds him in such high regard.

John Sebastian once sang about the 1,352 guitar pickers in Nashville, omitting to add that there were even more singer-songwriters plying their hopeful trade on Music Row. John Hiatt, one man who has made the grade, has attracted a small but loyal following to his idiosyncratic blend of wit, soul and sophistication. Ry Cooder has used him well on record and movie soundtrack while in England Nick Lowe and Elvis Costello, who duets on one song on Hiatt's album Warming Up To The Ice Age, recognize a kindred spirit in this suave craftsman.

John Fogerty Centerfield (Warner Brothers K925 2351) John Hiatt Warming Up To The Ice Age (Geffen 26309) John Anderson The Best Of John Anderson (WEA K925 1691) Hank Williams Jr Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way (WEA K240 5181)

Hiatt's forte is paradox: his melodies soothe while his story lines slash and wound, often lyrics. Generally, behind the bittersweet lyrics one hears a laugh in his voice. The self-deprecating front he assumes on 'I'm A Real Man' and 'I Got A Gun', while the acidic soul that Hiatt admires in artists such as Percy Sledge and Don Covay cuts right through 'The Crush' a scorching duet with Bobby King.

Despite coming from Indiana, Hiatt's roots are in the South, his heroes the black and white stylists of Tennessee. Warming Up To The Ice Age, produced in Nashville by Norbert Putnam, the Area Code 615 veteran bass and cello player, is well up to Hiatt's usual standard but he could do with some commercial success to bolster his high standing with the critics.

John Anderson and Hank Williams Jr are performers of the old school of honky-tonk and outlaw country music. Both are featured on intelligent compilations which capture the essence of the genres, a mixture of timeless misery, cliché and sardonic bluff.

Anderson, a Florida exile with a neat line in understated humour, seems to send up the process from the outset. Even his titles are pastiches - 'She Just Started Liking Cheating Songs' or 'I'm Just An Old Chunk of Coal (But I'm Gonna Be A Diamond One Day)', but his arrangements are sincere enough.

Williams, son of the legendary country singer, takes his position more seriously, having moved from country-rock back to the real thing. He has the rough, Bourbon-soaked twang of the genuine article which gives him the edge on Anderson. The best song here is not an original but Williams's cover of Waylon Jennings's classic 'Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way' sounds tough enough to persuade even the most die-hard pop fanatic to don a Stetson and head out for Music City, USA.

Max Bell

COLLECTING

Survivors of the Civil War

In the difficult aftermath of the Civil War in the 1640s, one man stood out as a vital symbol of English unity. He was Sir Thomas Fairfax, a faithful servant of Cromwell as Lord General of the Parliamentary forces, who later became a key figure in the Restoration of the monarchy in 1660.

Both parliamentarians and royalists have much to thank him for. So, too, do numismatists, because of the important and innovative portrait badges that he issued. They provide a vivid picture of a period which is brought to mind again this week, with the 300th anniversary of the death of Charles II falling on Wednesday.

The medal was slow to develop in Britain, but during the Civil War there was a flurry of activity as Royalists expressed their devotion to the cause by wearing small badges of recognition. Charles I and Henrietta Maria are depicted on a number of these, usually oval pieces, which would hang from a ribbon around the neck.

For the Lord General to follow the King's idea was a brave and bold move. The badges Fairfax issued after the battle of Marston, 1649, exist: delightful portraits, and accurate too; they are small enough to hold in the palm of the hand, sometimes gold, but more often silver or silver-gilt.

The badges were issued to those who fought with him at the battle, and were authorized and paid for by Parliament and the City of London. They were the work of a young medalist, Thomas Simon, who Cromwell was to find 'worthy of encouragement', and who, 10 years later, was to design his portrait coinage. Perhaps it was a good word from Fairfax that kept him in his employment at the Mint after the Restoration, although he was to die within a few years from the plague.

Last October two of Simon's Fairfax medals were sold at auction for £260 and £230 (plus 5 per cent premium). The smaller, cheaper medal shows him in armour, a three-quarter profile, to the left, the reverse without design, just an inscription in and around the medal. 'Myrris... nec hoc meliora (You have merited - better heraldry). The larger medal was similar, but the actual portrait is a fraction smaller to allow for a legend to run round it. These two badges form part of a much wider group of similar items, badges of Parliamentarians and Royalists alike, and the collector should be thankful that they



Gold medalists: Sir Thomas Fairfax, by Thomas Simon

still can be acquired, and at a reasonable price. Sir Thomas Fairfax is buried at Bilbrough, Yorkshire, in a small chapel in the Parish Church of St James. The church needs £15,000 to repair the chapel and conserve his finely-carved tomb, and it is hoped that those who value the contribution to our history of his badges, will help preserve this other Fairfax monument.

Another aspect of Civil War has been highlighted recently with the publication by Spink & Son of 'The John Brooker Collection - Coins of Charles I'. It forms part of the Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles, the 33rd volume in an on-going series published, for the most part, by the British Academy. It illustrates almost all the 1,356 coins collected by Mr Brooker over 34 years.

Daniel Fearon

Donations should be sent to either: Fairfax Appeal Fund, Yorkshire Bank, 46 Conroy Street, York, YO1 1NQ, or Treasurer, Bilbrough P.C., 10, Ingecroft, Bilbrough, York YO2 3PH.

The John G. Brooker Collection - Coins of Charles I by J J North and P J Preston-Moyle, Spink & Son, King Street, St James's, London SW1, £19.50 (plus £2 p and p).

Auctions

LOVING WISHES: The finest collection of Valentine cards to come to auction - 450 of them dating from the 18th century. Lavish and icy Victorian sentimentality, mechanical cards of the 1920s, pop-ups and some rare insulating Victorian Valentines range in estimates from £20 to £200. Phillips, Blemheim Street, London W1 (629 6602). Viewing Tues 9am-5pm, Wed 9-11am. Sale Wed at noon.

PHYSICIANS ANCIENT AND MODERN: Duplicates from the library of the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh including the 1771 first English edition of Zimmerman's 'Trésorie or the Dispensary'. Bloomsbury Book Auctions, 3 and 4 Hardwick Street, London EC1 (833 2636). Viewing Tues and Wed 9.30am-5.30pm, Thursday 9.30am-1pm. Sale Thur at 1pm.

Warriors and heroes on parade

Close by the colourful hubbub of the strolling fiddle players, drunkards and floating brides of Chagall at the Royal Academy, two new presences will make themselves felt next week. First, from Monday to Sunday and continuing the jamboree spirit, there's a fleeting view of the Florence Gould Collection of Impressionist paintings before it goes under the hammer at Sotheby's New York. Second, in more austere mood and for considerably more time, comes a major retrospective of work by Britain's most famous sculptress, Dame Elisabeth Frink.

Of the two retrospectives, Chagall's bears the marks of having been a refugee for most of his life. He carries uncritical images of pre-revolution Russia with him wherever he wanders, whether it be France or the United States. Frink, on the other hand, is busily integrated into the life of her homeland. Apart from having produced many outdoor works and sculptures which are now in scores of public and private collections, she is also a trustee of the British Museum, a Royal Academician, and a Dame of the British Empire since 1982.

Her comparative sense of security releases a unique and private perception, as can be seen in this show. It includes 87 sculptures completed over the last 30 years.

Born in 1930, the intellectual baggage Frink carried from childhood to adulthood was a blend of wartime observation (planes crashing into nearby fields; news of the horror of Belsen) and contentment within a countryside environment (she lives in Dorset surrounded by dogs and horses).

Art takes over the cinema

Next week the National Art Collections Fund launches a Monday evening season of 'art' movies in the real sense of the word, writes Sarah Jane Checkland. It has inveigled Vickers into lending its 'very comfortable' cinema in Millbank Tower for a 10-week season of films on artists. Convinced there is a wealth of such little known films it is turning each screening into an occasion. For £2.50 you can also taste the NACF with a free glass of wine.

One of her earliest successes was 'Monument to the Unknown Political Prisoner'. For this she received a prize in an international competition in 1953. This started off her predilection for warriors and men in uniform - a theme which has been constant in her work. First, warrior means hero and to illustrate, the exhibition includes 'Warrior Head' of the early 1950s. Frink is then seen to mature with her generation, seeing issues less in black and white. Her warriors give way, as seen in the show, to 'Fallen Man' (1960) and 'Dying King' (1963).

Artists are often preoccupied with images of the opposite sex and Frink is no exception. Apart from male humans, her oeuvre includes many strutting, male birds. Frink, however, is tired of the neat presumptions often made about her work. 'I don't want to hear that phrase 'dominant male' again', she says. 'It is so idiotic. My work is about the figure. I only do male figures because they are suitable for what I want to say.'

One daunting side to Frink's work is providing outdoor sculpture for public places. Viewers are not necessarily benevolent and sometimes her work is vandalized. 'Usually bills are sawn off, or they break the legs', she says, 'but luckily it's very difficult to do because my work is so strong'. The last time she suffered such indignity was at the Liverpool Garden Festival last year, when a security man smashed into her equestrian statue in a Land-Rover. Even with this disincentive, however, she thinks there ought to be more sculpture in Britain to counteract the nation's philistinism.

Monet, a study using reconstructed conversations (50 mins), Lutetia, a clever piece of animation (7 mins) and Magritte: The False Mirror, filmed during the Tate retrospective (25 mins). The rest of February concentrates on British artists: Duncan Grant at Charleston, showing him in conversation with Quentin Bell (25 mins) and Rex Whistler, with reminiscences by Cecil Beaton, Ninette de Valois and Lord David Cecil (both Feb 18, 60 mins); The Pre-Raphaelite Revolt, on the Brotherhood's first few years (30 mins) and John Everett Millais, a chronological account of his development (both Feb 25, 60 mins). The NACF film season continues until Apr 29 at the Vickers Cinema, Millbank, London SW1 (821 0404). Mondays at 6.30pm; tickets £2.50, £2.00 on season.



Private perception: Dame Elisabeth Frink at work in her studio on a bust of Sir Alec Guinness

Not everyone would agree - for example, the purists who are preparing to go to the British Landscape Watercolours 1600-1860 at the British Museum from Thursday. This is a chance to see Britain in pre-high-rise, pre-modern sculpture days by such artists as Constable, Turner, Girtin and Blake.

Some scenes are drastically changed today, like the view of London from Hampstead by Constable. Some provide fascinating social history, such as 'Laying the Water Main on Tottenham Court Road' by George Scharf, a German who had an eye for scenes that British artists avoided. Some famous landmarks remain unchanged today, such as Stonehenge (by Constable) and Durham Cathedral (Cotman).

Openings

RECALLING THE FIFTIES: Personal selection of British painting and sculpture, 1950-60, by Bryan Robertson. Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (402 6075) from today. Until March 3, daily 10am-5pm. THREE DECADES OF BRITISH PAINTING: Abstract art by Patrick Heron. Op Art by Jeffrey Steele, Pop Art by R. B. Kitaj. National Museum of Wales, Cardiff (0222 387951) from today. Until March 31. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-5pm. 105TH EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY PRINTS: Reasonably priced prints by members of the Royal Society of Painter-Etchers and Engravers. Banksie Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, London SE1 (928 7521) from Thurs. Until March 3, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm.

FRANK STELLA: MICHAEL CRAIG-MARTIN: Twelve new multi-media images by the New York artist; eight new works by the British sculptor. Waddington Galleries, 4 & 34 Cork Street, London W1 (437 8611) from Weds. Until March 2, daily 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm. HELEN CHADWICK AND MIKEY GUDDIHY: Invited to investigate their own private histories, these two female artists have produced work imprinted with their own forms. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, London W6 (741 2251) from Fri. Until March 9, Mon-Sat noon-8pm.

TIM HEAD: THE TYRANNY OF REASON: Installation demonstrating 'the human as consumer, the consumer as victim', with motorized sound effects. ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (930 0493) from Fri. Until March 17, Tues-Sun noon-9pm.

LANDSCAPES IN BRITAIN: Olivier Gallery, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (828 2033). Until March 5, Mon-Sat 10am-11pm. Landscape photographs by Charlie Waite: thoughtful, beautiful and seductive. Michael Young

GALLERIES

Building an image on negatives

Architectural power comes out of the barrel of a 4B pencil, according to architectural historian and post-modern propagandist, Dr Charles Jencks. However, more powerful still is the lens of the architectural photographer.

It is impossible to calculate the influence which photography of seminal buildings has had on this century, but it is far greater than most architects would admit, or are probably conscious of.

But after the image-making of the gifted cameraman and his accessories, how disappointing the reality can be. Richard Bryant, one of Britain's leading architectural photographers, says: 'A camera never tells the truth. It distorts everything.'

Architecture through the Lens' Architecture through the Lens' opens at the Royal Institute of British Architects on Monday. It features the work of Bryant (including the non-British, though British-designed Stuttgart gallery by James Stirling), Lucy Lambton and the late Richard Einzig, who raised architectural photography to an art form during the 1960s and 1970s.

The trained eye can distinguish between the work of different photographers. Bryant creates an awareness of space and form while Lambton often uses artificial lighting to romanticize her subject matter; Einzig felt for texture and materials and had a great sense of perspective.

Colour photography is being used increasingly, although architects often tend to think tonally; Bryant trained as an architect and admits to preferring black and white photography for this reason.

A positive by-product of more colour in publishing is likely to be the increased use of colour in architecture itself: no bad thing after 50 years of heroic white buildings set against artificially black skies. The most vital pictures also include that other missing ingredient often overlooked by architects and their image-makers - people.

Next month there will be an exhibition of architectural collages by Jenny Okun. It seems that architectural photography may well become an art form in its own right. Charles Knevitt 'British Architecture through the Lens' opens on Mon at the Royal Institute of British Architects, 65 Portland Place, London W1 (580 5533). Until Feb 27, Mon-Fri 10am-6pm.

Michael Young

Christopher Warman talks to Samantha Eggar

London stage set for a rover's return

Samantha Eggar, a British actress who has been living in the United States for the past 20 years, regards actors and actresses as strolling players, wandering wherever life takes them.

For her and for Anthony Hopkins, who has been busy making an international reputation in such films as *The Elephant Man* and *The Bounty*, the Old Vic is their latest halt, appearing on Wednesday the first English production of *The Lonely Road* by Arthur Schnitzler, author of the better known *La Ronde*.

It was at the Old Vic that Anthony Hopkins established his reputation: 12 years later he returns to play the leading role of Julian Fichtner, a bohemian artist, in a romantic tragedy set in the elegant but hidebound society of Vienna at the turn of the century.

Another Old Vic link in the past is Alan Dobie, who began his career at the theatre, and incidentally starred with Hopkins in the highly acclaimed television version of *War and Peace* a few years ago.

Samantha Eggar began her theatre career with Sir Donald

Wolfitt and Mona Washbourne in a Cecil Beaton play at the Dublin theatre festival; she worked at the Oxford Playhouse and the Royal Court with Tony Richardson and George Devine, before departing for Los Angeles and a film career. Her appearance in *The Collector* won her the best actress award at the Cannes film festival in 1963. Paris in *Dr Crippen*, *Doctor Doolittle* and *The Seven Year Itch* followed.

She believes a lot in luck, and says that played a large part in her return, albeit temporary, to England. About a year ago, she was asked to do a play by Duncan Wedon of Triumph Apollo Production (who with the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford, are producing *The Lonely Road*), she had to refuse but because of her work as co-chairman of an Olympic Games entertainment committee.

Later she was asked to do the opening night of *A Patriot for Me* in Los Angeles, where she met Anthony Hopkins, who mentioned the forthcoming Schnitzler play. "He sent me the script and I instantly loved it. It also came at the right time. I had not worked for about five years, my



On the way back: Anthony Hopkins and Samantha Eggar in Schnitzler's *The Lonely Road* at the Old Vic

kids were going to college. I was free, and I felt I had better get off my butt and do something. The chance to do this was like golden lights shining down on me.

Despite the occasional Americanism, she is still very English, and was not sure whether she should have worn the pink T-shirt inscribed "Schnitzler" she was sporting to the theatre.

In *The Lonely Road* she plays a beautiful actress, which seems

appropriate casting, and describes the play as "very strong, with great emotional depths". Whereas *La Ronde*, sensational at the time, has dated, she believes that *The Lonely Road* (written eight years later) is timeless in its emotional truths. "It needs concentration to appreciate, but throughout it there are lines which will give a moment of recognition, to someone in the audience."

The Lonely Road is directed by Christopher Fettes, who

prepared the English version with Ronald Harpelle. The National Theatre's production of *Fool for Love*, by Sam Shepard, starring Julie Walters and Ian Charleson, transfers to the West End, where it opens at the Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, for an eight-week season from Monday.

To coincide with the Chinese New Year festival, the Fai-Shen Theatre present their version of *Monkey King*, an episode in the

journey of a monk in search of Buddhist scriptures, at the Lyttelton Theatre for a platform performance at 6pm on Monday. The company, which began as an amateur group in Liverpool, aims to become fully professional.

The Lonely Road opens at the Old Vic (928 7616) on Wed at 7pm; preview Mon at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Weds at 2.30pm, Sats at 4pm.

DANCE

ROYAL BALLET Covent Garden (240 1066). Today, Mon, Tues, Thurs at 7.30pm. Tonight is the season's last *Cinderella*, danced by Marguerite Porter and Jay Jolley. Mark Ermler conducts *The Sleeping Beauty*, with Lesley Collier and Stephen Jeffers (Mon), Bryony Brind and Derek Deane's quartet (Wed), Jennifer Parney, Anthony Dowell and Jefferies lead in *Manon* (Thurs).

BALLET RAMBERT Manchester, Palace Theatre (061-236 9922). Tues to Feb 9 at 7.30pm. The new tour includes the premiere of Dan Wagoner's first work for Rambert, on a bill (Fri, Sat) with Richard Alston's *Wildlife* and Robert North's *Entre Dos Aguas*. Until Thurs, the programme comprises Alston's *Voices* and *Light Footsteps* and North's *Death and the Maiden* with Christopher Bruce's *Sergeant Early's Dream*.

ROCK & JAZZ

SHALAMAR Tonight, Birmingham Odeon (021 780 2016); tomorrow, Demagot Centre, Northampton (0604 248111); Tues, Ipswich Gaumont (0473 53641); Wed, Wolverhampton Civic Hall (0902 28482); Fri, Brighton Dome (0273 682127). Claver old Howard Hewitt: Will the punters notice that he has replaced the inflated egos of Jody Watley and Jeffrey Daniels with the Prince-and-Apollonia duo Mickie Free and Delisa Davis?

KELLAWAY/THOMPSON Tonight and Mon to Sat, Pizza on the Park, 11 Knightsbridge, London SW1 (235 5550). Witty keyboard conversations by Roger Kellaway, once a member of that marvellous quartet co-led by Clark Terry and Bob Brookmeyer, and the indestructible Eddie Thompson.

LONDON CONTEMPORARY Oxford, Apollo Theatre (0865 245444). Tues to Feb 9 at 7.30pm except Thurs at 8pm. A new work by Slothian Davies is given Thurs-Sat with *No Man's Land* and *Agora*, both by Robert Cohan. The programme Tues, Wed consists of Cohan's *Skyward*, Alston's *Doublework* and Tom Jobe's *Rite Electric*.

DIVERSIONS Laban Centre, Goldsmith's College, New Cross, London SE14 (081 5750). Mon, Tues at 7.30pm. This small dance company from Wales, on a rare visit to London, give a new work by American choreographer Rosalind Newman.

TIM BUCKLEY ICA Theatre (930 3647). Tues until Feb 9 at 8pm. Buckley and his regular pianist-composer Gene Tyranny collaborate with three video-men.

CHAKA KHAN Tonight, Brighton Centre (0273 202881). A fluent but rather mechanical soul singer, she turned up on *Top of the Pops* last week doing an extraordinary impersonation of Bertice Reading imitating Tina Turner.

LAST POETS Fri and Sat, Shaw Theatre, 100 Euston Road, London NW1 (287 8075). This group of black American poets, who declare their

fashionably angry verses to a background of Afro-style percussion, could indeed be said to have sowed some of the seeds which grew into rap. To find out how Cab Calloway and Mahalia Jackson turned into Melle Mel and Millie Jackson, read David Toop's erudite *Rap Attack*. (Pluto Press, £4.95).

FILMS



Drama: Philip Baker Hall as Richard Nixon

Casting light on the darkest days of a president

If there is a good candidate for minimum cinema, it must be *Secret Honor*. A single set, a cast of one, a monologue lasting 90 minutes without a break - seldom, outside the avant garde, has the filmmaker offered so few concessions. The sole character, though, could hardly be more fascinating: it is one Richard Nixon.

Secret Honor is Nixon's justification for the Watergate affair, delivered into a tape recorder late at night in his office where portraits of former Presidents look down from the walls. Helped along by frequent sips of whisky, the apologetic is rambling, foul-mouthed, paranoid and hysterical.

Much of the script comes from Nixon's own utterances, though it will take someone very close to American politics to spot all the references. Elsewhere fact merges into speculation, notably in the suggestion that Watergate was merely the pretext by which Nixon extricated himself from something far worse - the deliberate prolonging of the Vietnam war to help American business interests.

Robert Altman, the director, calls *Secret Honor* "truthful if not factual", one of the authors of the play from which it is taken is Donald Freed, whose *Executive Action* offered a novel view of events surrounding the assassination of President

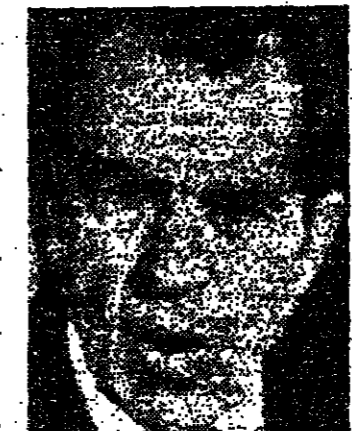
Kennedy. The difficulty, particularly for British audiences, is what sort of truth to accept.

Altman first came across *Secret Honor* in a workshop production in Los Angeles, took it to New York and Boston and filmed it at the University of Michigan, where he teaches, using his own money and a crew of student technicians. The music was composed by one of the professors.

The actor, repeating his stage performance, is Philip Baker Hall, a veteran of American theatre and television but (so far) little known in films. He is not exactly a Nixon lookalike but near enough in build and gesture to be convincing. In voice, curiously, he recalls Jason Robards, who played Nixon in the Watergate soap opera, *Washington Behind Closed Doors*.

For Altman, *Secret Honor* continues the challenge of turning theatre into cinema which he started with *Come Back to the Fire* and *Nine Strangers*. All are a very long way from the kaleidoscope extravagance of *Nashville* or the joyous black comedy of Altman's first (some would say only) popular success, *M*A*S*H*.

No one would call the film pro-Nixon but Altman has reported some interesting reactions. Nixon supporters, per-



Drama: Nixon on the point of resignation in 1974

haps surprisingly, have tended to view the piece sympathetically, as the study of a man of good intentions having a hard time while people who hated Nixon have complained that the film makes him too humane.

Other comments include those of Harold Pinter: "A brilliant film". Clement Freud: "NIP ('obscure' and 'blasphemous') and Julie Christie: "A brilliant impressionistic portrait of an unbalanced mind tottering under the weight of immense power". Now you can decide for yourself.

Secret Honor (cert 15) opens in London on Fri at the Everyman Hampstead (435 1525).

Opening

BODY ROCK (PG) Yet another breakdance musical, with lively numbers, a New York setting and a plot in need of urgent medical attention. Directed by Marcello Epstein, with Lorenzo Lamas and Vicki Frederick. From Fri at the Classic, Oxford Street (636 6148).

Selected

AMADEUS (PG) ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (636 8861). ABC Fathom Road (370 2636). Peter Shaffer's celebrated play about the rivalry between Mozart and Salieri is re-worked by the author and director Mios Forman into a lavish screen spectacular.

BLOOD SIMPLE (18) Warner West End (439 8791). Classic Haymarket (252 5277). Odson Kensington (002 8544). Odson Swan Cottage (586 3057). Classic Chelsea (252 5985). Self-consciously stylish thriller from Joel Cohen, making his debut as a director, with John Getz as a bartender at the Neon Booi saloon caught in a spider's web of love, duplicity and bizarre violence.

VIGIL (15) ICA Cinema (930 0480). New Zealand films can be as thrilling as cold tea but this directorial debut of 27-year-old Vincent Ward offers plenty of visual kicks. It is the story of a young girl coming slowly to grips with her life and feelings on an isolated farm.

THE SHOOTING PARTY (15) Curzon (499 3737). Alan Bridges's conscientious portrait of British upper class society on the eve of the First World War; a powerful cast in top form includes James Mason (his last film performance), John Gielgud, Edward Fox and Cheryl Campbell.

THE TIMES SWEATSHIRT



The classic stretch-knit sweatshirt originated in the USA as a comfortable easy-fit top for sports and leisure activities. The design, crew-neck with deep raglan sleeves and stretch-knit neck cuffs and hem, makes it a useful multi-purpose garment that offers a machine alternative to traditional pullovers and sweaters for casual wear.

Mr. President, a well-known US clothing manufacturer has produced a range of high-quality sweatshirts specifically designed for Times readers, with THE TIMES flock printed on the left breast of each shirt. Choose from navy, denim blue (50% cotton/50% acrylic) or grey (50% acrylic/50% polyester/20% cotton). The fabric is fleecy-lined and fully machine washable. The comprehensive range of sizes, from 28" chest to 48" chest should prove suitable for the whole family.

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CONCERTS

TOURNAMENTS FIRST Today, 7.30pm, Royal Festival Hall, London W1 (935 2147). Takemitsu's *November Steps* is played by the New Japan Philharmonic under Seiji Ozawa. This piece gives prominence to Kinsui Tsuruta on biwa and Katsuya Yokoyama on shakuhachi. The programme also includes: Beethoven's *Overture Leonora No 3* and Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No 6 'Pathtétique'*.

ALDO CICCOLINI Wed, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 8800). Aldo Ciccolini presents two large groups, by Mozart and Liszt. The latter includes the *Consolations*, *Funerailles* and the *Luce* and *Paraisa Paraphrase*.

PRO/MEINHARDT-TURBE Fri, 7.30pm, St John's. Edgard Meinhardt-Turbe conducts the Philharmonic Repertoire Orchestra as Luis Gonzales-Funtes solos in Dvořák's *Romance* Op 11. Fore and aft: Sibelius's *Symphony No 7* and Brahms's *Symphony No 4*.

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RARE KODALY Tues, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall, London W1 (935 2147). Kodaly's attractive *Quartet No 2* is not often played but *Come Back to the Fire* and *Nine Strangers*. All are a very long way from the kaleidoscope extravagance of *Nashville* or the joyous black comedy of Altman's first (some would say only) popular success, *M*A*S*H*.

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RARE KODALY Tues, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall, London W1 (935 2147). Kodaly's attractive *Quartet No 2* is not often played but *Come Back to the Fire* and *Nine Strangers*. All are a very long way from the kaleidoscope extravagance of *Nashville* or the joyous black comedy of Altman's first (some would say only) popular success, *M*A*S*H*.

ALDO CICCOLINI Wed, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 8800). Aldo Ciccolini presents two large groups, by Mozart and Liszt. The latter includes the *Consolations*, *Funerailles* and the *Luce* and *Paraisa Paraphrase*.

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Television and radio choice

ON THE AIR

by Peter Waymark

Layers of truth in a wall of lies

Andrzej Wajda came to prominence as a director of works standing with a trio of films...

Films on TV

contained in a propaganda film depicting his part in a bricklaying record in the steel town of Nova Huta...



Forgotten idol: Jerzy Radziwiloicz in Man of Marble

Also recommended Old Acquaintance (1943); Bette Davis and Miriam Hopkins...

Raoul Walsh (Channel 4, tomorrow, 10.15pm-12.10am). A Diary For Timothy (1945); Classic documentary...

Handing out a bundle of knowledge

Television

Let the writer declare an interest. I am left-handed and as Horizon points out on Monday (BBC2, 9.30-10.20pm)...

The pick of the new drama is Malcolm Bradbury's six-part adaptation of Blott on the Landscape (BBC2, Wednesday, 9.50-10.50pm)...

ENTERTAINMENTS

Barbican Hall listings for February 2-8, 1985. Includes London Symphony Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, and various chamber music ensembles.

London Symphony Orchestra listings for February 9-17, 1985. Features Claudio Abbado, Maxim Shostakovich, and Tamas Vassy.

The Georgian State Dance Company listing for 20-26 March at Dominion Theatre. Includes national tour dates.

Pump Boys and Dinettes listing for tonight at 6.00 and 8.45 at Piccadilly Theatre.

Opera & Ballet listings for February 2-8, 1985. Includes Covent Garden, Royal Opera House, and The Royal Ballet.

Chances to lend an ear to the famous

If people make the best radio, then we are in for a rich week. Profiles abound and it needs only a judicious flicking of the switches to reveal a veritable collection of figures...

Radio Sarah Siddons was the great tragic actress of her era - from roughly 1780 to the 1810s...

Rosamund Lehmann, happily, needs no actress to play her. Now in her eighties, she looks back on her life and work in Monday's edition of Kaleidoscope (Radio 4, 9.45-10.15pm)...

songbirds, Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy. A comparatively young singer, though coming to the end of a distinguished career...

EATING OUT

A spell of French style

In the first of two articles we report on how some talented and creative French chefs are rubbing shoulders with British cooks in our restaurant kitchens.

A trip across the Channel has always been considered de rigueur for British chefs who want to get on. But in future they may be able to learn as much by staying at home...

OUT AND ABOUT

Fly customers

Few things in life would give me greater pleasure than to enter angling history as the creator of Tendler's Inimitable. How pleasant it would be to know that in centuries to come your name would be remembered in a thousand fly boxes...

ber that many of the threads and wools can be bought in haberdashers far more cheaply than the small packs sold by fishing shops.

Next: Seeing three stars at Ninety Park Lane

Your first patterns will probably be big and simple, like the Baby Doll; make as many as you can of each dressing (at least five of six), until you have mastered the techniques...

Opera & Ballet listings for February 2-8, 1985. Includes Covent Garden, Royal Opera House, and The Royal Ballet.

Next: Seeing three stars at Ninety Park Lane

Entertainments

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BARBICAN HALL

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Friday 1st at 8.00pm
Fraser Davidson conductor
Raymond Cohen violin
Wagner: *Der Ring des Nibelungen*
Sibelius: *Finlandia*
Schubert: *Symphony No 9*
Chopin: *Ballade Op 10 No 3*
Liszt: *Etrex Op 10 No 3*
Liszt: *Etrex Op 10 No 3*

LSO
Saturday 2nd at 7.55pm
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor

LSO

LSO
Saturday 2nd at 7.55pm
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor

MAHLER

MAHLER
Thursday 7th at 7.55pm
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor

LSO

LSO
Saturday 2nd at 7.55pm
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor

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THE PIT
Tuesday 26th at 7.45pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
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QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

ACADEMY OF LONDON
Tuesday 5th at 7.45pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Saturday 2nd at 7.30pm
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor

Fairfield Croydon

LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

OWAIN ARWEL HUGHES
Tuesday 5th at 7.45pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

MAURICE HANDFOUR
Wednesday 6th at 7.45pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents

LONDON: HISTORIC CITY IN FILM

Tuesday 5th at 7.45pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

MAURICE HANDFOUR
Wednesday 6th at 7.45pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor

MUSIC OF FINLAND

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

MAURICE HANDFOUR
Wednesday 6th at 7.45pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor

GLC Working for the Arts in London

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

SHURA CHERKASSKY
Tuesday 5th at 7.30pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor

WIGMORE HALL

SHARON GOULD
Wednesday 6th at 7.30pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor

St John's Smith Square

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

MAURICE HANDFOUR
Wednesday 6th at 7.45pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR. HANDEL

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

MAURICE HANDFOUR
Wednesday 6th at 7.45pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor

WOMAN MAGAZINE presents

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

MAURICE HANDFOUR
Wednesday 6th at 7.45pm
Richard Hickox conductor
Lindsay Searles conductor
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THEATRES

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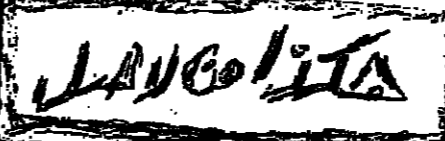
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also on page 34

THE ARTS



The Times Bicentenary Concert Corporate feeling

Chicago SO/Solti Festival Hall

It would be presumptuous to declare an interest in The Times Bicentenary Concert...

The programme rightly had nothing to do with celebration, but was an intriguing juxtaposition of the ninth symphonies...

To hear this playing so vividly, even at times searingly, was a revelation. Sir Georg encouraged his energetic brass section to strive out of the texture...



Sir Georg Solti

brief moments, but still more curiously of Prokofiev in the trio and of Vaughan Williams at one point in the adagio...

ECO/Mackerras Queen Elizabeth Hall

No we were not all at The Times Bicentenary Concert quite a lot of us were encountering symphonic music on a distinctly smaller scale...

he eulogised in some fairly trite part-sonnets. There was not much in either Rossini's Cenerentola Overture or Beethoven's B flat Piano Concerto...

that one might have imagined he was controlling a coach and four, rather than a slimmed-down orchestra...

Nicholas Kenyon



Hawaiian tourist attraction

Television Frightening the natives

The New Pacific (BBC 2) examined the perils of tourism there (about which the Old West knows a great deal already)...

The pressure point is probably Hawaii, where some four million tourists arrive each year for what was described as a "taste of the primitive"...

Perhaps we were meant to feel outrage on the natives' behalf, or at least on behalf of the culture from which they spring...

Peter Ackroyd

The Government Inspector Olivier

Many spectators who have been richly entertained by British revivals of this piece as a small-town social satire must have shrugged off Gogol's efforts to claim it as a vision of judgment...

The enlarged scale is instantly declared in John Gutter's amazing set: a recessed curtain composed of magnified documents that overflow into giant files on the side stages...

On to this overwhelming image of Tsarist bureaucracy is projected the face of the inspector, first seen in profile, and then turning to confront the audience...

Fear runs through the production to a degree far beyond the call of satire; but its effect is often to intensify the comedy. But with sheer panic driving out common sense...

That is one early example of the grotesque style which develops to the grand scale as the evening progresses. Sometimes it is simply exhilarating, as where Khlestakov's reveries of social glory call forth a court of resplendent mutes on the side stages...

After the main bribery scene come the petitioning merchants, and Khlestakov's moment of triumph turns to nightmare...

Nicholas Kenyon

Theatre Upstaged by the set



Rik Mayall as Khlestakov

starving Russia appears on the threshold, to a background of mass lamentation, to be cast out into the night.

When the awful truth of the fraud finally comes out, the Governor and his fellow rogues are impaled on David Hervey's stabbing side-lights...

The production has run into a dilemma which is more common on the continental stage than it is over here: namely the tendency for a bold concept and epic design to make actors look small.

Performances, on the whole, are entirely overshadowed by the production. The women are particularly so.

There is a great deal of inventive group business, this being a highly-drilled show anyway. But the sight of Mr Broadbent cramming on a hat-

had a father who considered blacks idiots: even medical school continues with the mendacity; orthodox phrenology teaches that the shape of a white man's skull is proof of his brainpower...

Edna Johnson is immensely spirited as the African, angered by both the fawned upon and the fawners. Nyana Pillay completes the quartet by playing an Indian who rebels at teaching false history to her pupils...

Edna Johnson is immensely spirited as the African, angered by both the fawned upon and the fawners. Nyana Pillay completes the quartet by playing an Indian who rebels at teaching false history to her pupils...

women - they have them made into cocktail frocks. Red Earth is dramatized research, a spade of authentic grievances. The quartet perform interlocking, impassioned monologues...

Edna Johnson is immensely spirited as the African, angered by both the fawned upon and the fawners. Nyana Pillay completes the quartet by playing an Indian who rebels at teaching false history to her pupils...

Roger Lewis

Radio Taking a pounding

Everybody this week has been obsessed with money. If it wasn't the drooping pound, it was the insufficient licence fee - Chairman Young on Wednesday, Director-General Milne on Tuesday...

I use the term "cross-examining" deliberately, for in this interview, certainly in its early stages, had something of the quality of a learned counsel for the prosecution (Miss Goldring) endeavouring to prise open a witness only too well aware that if he spoke one half of what he knew, his body would surely be found floating off the Essex marshes on the next tide.

While the Governor never openly declined to answer a question at all, an audible hint of dry mouth and a rather low ratio of meaning to the number of words spoken suggested that he wished he might be allowed to step down - at least on the subject of how the pound got into its present pickle and where, if not still further down, it may go from here.

At any rate, Miss Goldring wisely let him off the hook and moved on to subjects that were merely tendentious - such as whether membership of the European Monetary System might not have saved us, or whatever happened to all those chilling threats of Third World default or what led to the Bank having to step in and prop up Johnson Matthey...

She also has a way of bringing the person she is talking to sharply into the mind's eye - here referring to Leigh-Pemberton as a man with "the face of a countryman and the stead of an unrelenting eyes that usually go with being a barrister"...

Money again was the subject of a new series, A Touch of Midas? (Radio 4, Tuesdays; producer Helen Robson); but there was no touch of gold, nor even Goldring, to its beginning. William Davis, said to be himself a millionaire and

author of books about the rich, talked to Michael Caine about what it is like to be a very wealthy man. The fact that I for one still have little notion says every bit as much about the quality of this interview as about my financial position. Mr Caine chatted amiably, Mr Davis threw in the odd inoffensive question or jocular observation, but as for probing, opening up - not a hint. Will he do better with Victor Lowndes, Frederick Forsyth, Robert Maxwell or Andrew Lloyd Webber? And incidentally aren't there any rich women? Anyway this lacklustre performance made the first of LBC's monthly Celebrity Interviews (January 31) with Bob Holness interrogating Andre Previn, sound positively psycho-analytical. At least Mr Holness gave the impression that he, or someone, had done some research and that he had a proper professional interest in portraying the man he was talking to.

I suppose that Nature Preserved (Radio 3, January 31; producer, Cliff Spencer) was also indirectly about money - or at least what happens to one part of the planet's population when the other thinks of very little else. Colin Tudge made an admirable job of explaining in only 30 minutes the methods and problems of preserving endangered species, instancing the Arabian oryx which was reinforced from the US into a part of Oman blessed with a clearly defined ecological boundary the edge of an escarpment. Unfortunately, the oryx didn't know it was a boundary and trotted down into the totally unsuitable environment below - from which, luckily, it was possible to drive them back again. But after that they knew about boundaries. Animals in the wild absorb such knowledge by tradition; reintroduced, they have to learn it, if they live long enough. There were other telling examples, many to do with maintaining genetic variety and one, the notorious panda, downright cussed. What do you do to preserve an animal which comes on heat one day in the year and whose diet, the bamboo, contains a compound that actually suppresses its fertility?

One small play this week made quite an impression. In Gillian Tindall's A Little Touch of Death (Radio 4, January 30; director, Susan Hogg) Angie fears breast cancer. The lump proves benign, but in exploring her reactions and those of her husband George, the author caught some notable and none too flattering likenesses.

David Wade

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immensely enjoyable...very, very funny! Twelfth Night a night to remember RSC BARBICAN THEATRE 01.628 8795 638 8891

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The Revenue stalks resident foreigners

Tax advisers in the major accountancy firms have been horrified by a rumour, emanating from the Inland Revenue, that the Chancellor is toying with the idea of changing the rules under which foreigners who are resident for tax purposes in the United Kingdom are taxed. The suggestion is that they would become liable to pay tax on all their income, irrespective of where it originated, on principles akin to the unitary tax method which has attracted American state legislatures and annoyed the British Government so much.

At present, any foreigner who is resident but not domiciled in the United Kingdom pays tax only on his UK related earnings and on any investment income which is actually remitted to this country. The story goes that plans are about to change this so that any foreigner who becomes resident, which is quite easy to do in the United Kingdom and is a question of fact not choice, would be taxed on all his earned and investment income wherever it is generated.

One reason why the Revenue might be tempted to contemplate such an absurd action is to stop the abuse by some foreigners of the resident but not domiciled rules. It is not uncommon for some people to claim that while they are resident they are not domiciled in the United Kingdom and fully intend to return to the country of their choice, while in the meantime gaining tax benefits.

If the Revenue sought to curtail the minority it would run the risk of causing all kinds of problems for the innocent majority, particularly those from the Middle East who would not have the protection of a double-tax treaty between their own country and the United Kingdom.

Mr Tony Hughes of Deloitte Haskins and Sells said: "If this rumour is true and the legislation is implemented it would have a dramatic effect and could create a lot of ill feeling. It is so easy to become resident in the UK that the change would be even more harmful in its effect."

Mini stock market set to expand

Robert Fleming is planning to expand greatly its pioneering venture for trading British equities outside the stock market. Over the next few months the merchant bank expects to add a further eight stocks to the list of 23 electrical company shares in which it already makes a market. It also plans to bring in written research material to service its growing client list. Fleming operates what amounts to its own miniature stock market by offering keener prices than are available through traditional broking firms.

According to market estimates, Fleming has captured around 15 per cent of electricals business in the six months since it set up shop - a figure which Mr Peter Jamieson, the director in charge of the venture does not disagree with if the

bank's transactions with market-makers in the stock market itself are included. This has been achieved without the special stamp duty concessions that jobbers enjoy. According to the market rumours, Fleming intends to attack the stocks sector next. Mr Jamieson denies that this is planned for the immediate future.

On Tuesday, the Stock Exchange Council resumed its discussion of changes suggested by its constitutional committee. If it does not find a workable way soon for transferring control of the market from existing individual members to member firms, it might be obliged to juggle with the present rules, not a satisfactory prospect.

Fleming wants to join the stock exchange but will not do so if the rules do not suit. The City will also have to consider at some stage whether to bring the huge and at present largely unregulated London market in Eurobonds under the stock exchange umbrella. Failure to attract a significant part of this market would not bode well for the long term future of the exchange.

Tom Frost moves up at NatWest

It is often the less obvious moves in business which prove to have been the most significant. Just such a development took place at National Westminster Bank yesterday, when Tom Frost stepped up to become deputy to Philip Wilkin, the banking group's cautiously prudent chief executive.

It has been the common change of banking parlours for some time that Mr Frost, aged 51, is likely to succeed Mr Wilkinson. Now he is heir apparent in a more formal sense, and even though there is no question of Mr Wilkinson's moving on for some time yet, it is possible to discern one or two strands of Mr Frost's future preoccupations.

As is now almost de rigueur in any large-scale commercial undertaking, Mr Frost has done his stint in the US. He was sent over there soon after NatWest bought its way into America, and has been credited with much of the groundwork laid down to ensure that the bank's presence in that land was both fruitful and well-founded.

Once repatriated, he was given charge of the bank's business development division, a vital role at a time of rapid change. He was responsible, in the teeth of some doubts among his colleagues, for the decision to dub NatWest "The Action Bank" in its advertising.

Mr Frost has now been charged to coordinate, through a steering committee, the bank's approach to the era of one-stop financial services, in which its anticipated stock market membership will form the leading edge of a nationwide securities trading arm, reaching the public through the branch network. Mr Frost faces a future no less challenging than that which has characterized the reign of his present boss.

US budget 'would give lowest spending rise in 20 years'

From Bailey Morris, Washington

President Reagan's new budget proposes total spending of \$973.7 billion (\$869 billion) in fiscal 1986, a spending rise of 1.5 per cent, which would be the lowest rate of government growth since 1965. White House officials said yesterday.

In one of the worst-kept secrets in Washington, details of Mr Reagan's budget - his blueprint of priorities for the next several years - have circulated widely in advance of the formal submission to Congress on Monday.

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, confirmed the new spending figure and said that the austere budget will show a "freeze in programme outlays over 1985."

But other high-level Administration officials and Congressmen who have been briefed on the new programme, said the budget contains only a partial freeze which will hit

domestic social programmes hardest, resulting in reductions in spending for eight of the 13 cabinet departments.

The Pentagon, in sharp contrast, would benefit from a big gain in military spending which would rise from \$246.3 billion in fiscal 1986 and up to \$418.3 billion by 1990.

Overall, military spending is projected to rise from 26 per cent of total US government spending this year to 35 per cent by 1990, officials said.

Administration officials contend that the steep social cut will reduce the record deficit, projected at more than \$200 billion this year, to \$178 billion in fiscal 1986 and \$144 billion in 1988 which is short of the President's original goal of \$100 billion.

Economists and Congressional Officials, however, said the new budget is based on



Speakes confirmed growth of 1.5 per cent.

over optimistic assumptions about the course of interest rates and the level of government borrowing. Congressional leaders who were briefed on the new budget predicted it would be "dead on arrival" when it reaches Capitol Hill on Monday.

News of the President's programme surfaced yesterday

as the government announced the second consecutive rise in the US unemployment rate last month to 7.4 per cent and Administration officials met in emergency session in an attempt to avert what could become the worst farm crisis since the 1930s.

Without emergency action by the government, officials predict that thousands of farmers, the largest number since the depression, face foreclosures by March 1 and that rural banks in farming states may also begin to fail in record numbers.

Congressmen from farming states are pressing the Administration for a massive credit relief programme to help farmers, who have suffered from poor exports related to the high dollar.

Overall, the administration is proposing big cuts in domestic programmes which are unlikely to be accepted by either Republicans or Democrats in Congress.

IN BRIEF Dollar surge hits pound

The dollar's surge hit sterling yesterday, as the Bank of England once again refused to signal a cut in base rates. The dollar rose against all currencies, in spite of modest intervention by the German central bank and the US Federal Reserve. There were also reports of modest dollar sales by the Bank of England and the Japanese central bank.

The pound lost 75 points to close in London at \$1.1240, later slipping to \$1.1220 in New York as the dollar rose further, reaching DM3.19 against the German currency. The sterling index, calculated before the dollar's late afternoon surge, gained 0.1 to 71.7.

The Bank of England's decision to maintain its intervention rates has been interpreted as a clear sign that any base rate move will have to await the reaction of the markets to Tuesday's money supply figures. City economists predict a rise in the sterling M3 measure of money supply of 0.5-1.5 per cent.

The pound's short-term performance will also be a key influence on the authorities.

Takeover offer

The proposed £5 million takeover of Torch Computers by its fellow Cambridge company, Acorn Computers, has been called off because of a "divergence of their future plans".

Joint bank

President Kaunda of Zambia officially opened a joint bank between his country and India. The Indo-Zambia Bank will enhance trade transactions of the two countries.

A consortium led by the Marquess of Milford Haven has exercised its option to buy the 29.7 per cent stake in Milford Docks, owned by N. G. Investments. The stake cost £420,000.

Beer down

Beer production slumped 5.4 per cent in December - the worst decline for that month since 1967. Production for the year was 36.7 million bulk barrels, a decrease of 0.4 per cent compared with 1983.

Chief resigns

Mr Ray Sollett has resigned as chief executive of Quinton Hazell, the motor components subsidiary of British Oil. He will continue to be available to British Oil as a consultant.

Edwardes acts to foil £33m BTR bid

By Ian Griffiths

BTR's £33 million bid for Dunlop suffered a setback yesterday with the announcement that Sir Michael Edwardes, the ailing tyre company's chairman, is formulating plans to avoid putting to preference shareholders a proposed financial reconstruction.

BTR holds a key 28 per cent blocking stake in the preference share capital reconstruction which Dunlop shareholders were due to vote on next Friday.

The Dunlop board now proposes to adjourn that meeting. The lead banks have agreed to maintain their present lending facilities beyond March 31 which will allow Dunlop time to sort out its plans to bypass preference shareholders.

BTR has been criticized by the Takeover Panel valuing Dunlop shares at 14p in some parts of its offer document sent to shareholders yesterday. This information was not presented in an "appropriate or helpful manner" and the reasons for adopting it were not clearly stated, explained or justified the panel said.

The panel also asked BTR how it intended to use its 28 per cent stake in Dunlop's preference shares, but BTR said it had not yet decided.

Sir Michael wrote to Sir Owen Green, BTR chairman, this week, with the same question. When no satisfactory answer was received, Dunlop sought to exclude preference shares from voting.

The Office of Fair Trading, which is examining the monopoly implications of the bid is expected to pass its advice over to the Department of Trade and Industry early next week.

Broker poaches top team of analysts

By Philip Robinson

Wood Mackenzie has poached an award-winning retailing analysts team from a rival stockbroker, Capel-Cure Myers, in a deal estimated by the market to be worth between £300,000 and £400,000.

Five of the nine members of the team resigned from CCM yesterday after three weeks of talks. The group is led by Mr John Richards and includes Mr Paul Deacon, Mr Paul Aynsley, Mr Paul Smiddy and Miss Joan Anderson. They are ranked number two by institutional investors for their information and judgement.

It is estimated that the team brings in about £2.5 million of fee income a year and represents between 10 and 20 per cent of the CCM business.

It is widely expected that the investors' business will follow the team to Wood Mackenzie.

Mr Adrian Evans, managing director of Grindlays Bank, which owns 5 per cent of CCM and will increase this to almost a third in April, said: "We do not think they will take all the business with them. We are obviously disappointed to see them go, but we will now have to start bringing up another team."

In a separate announcement yesterday WICO, Galloway and Pearson said it was buying Walter Walker, the stockbroker and converting it into a branch office to handle a combined £200 million under advice. Exco International, the financial supermarket, has a 29 per cent stake in WICO Galloway and Pearson.

Whitehall officials said last night, however, that the Government still supported the fund in principle and was prepared to allocate £15 million a year for five years from existing bilateral aid for Africa.

Of the \$1.1 billion, the bank raised \$667 million in direct contributions.

Polly Peck issues £41m cash call

By Cliff Feltham

Mr Asif Nadir's Polly Peck is asking its shareholders for £41.7 million, after expenses. The money is to be pumped into expanding its agricultural and consumer electronics divisions in Northern Cyprus and Turkey.

The group says it has paid for the rapid growth of the last four years out of cash flow and needs the new money to give it more flexibility.

The terms involve the issue of a 9 per cent convertible loan stock with £9 worth for every 20 ordinary shares, which can be exchanged at an equivalent conversion price of 244p between 1989-1999.

One novel feature allows shareholders to convert the stock this June for 233p. The Polly Peck chairman, Mr Nadir, says he will do this in respect of the £6 million of rights he will take up - just under half his entitlement.

Polly Peck wants to build new packaging plants in Northern Cyprus and on the mainland. It says the rapid growth of its fruit packaging and marketing operations will need more distribution facilities.

There is no profit forecast to accompany the rights issue.

Tempus, page 23

N Sea oil down \$4 on year ago

By David Young Energy Correspondent

North Sea spot oil prices have started the month more than \$4 below their level on February 1 last year. But they are gradually edging up in the wake of the new price agreement by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec).

The price for Brent crude has risen almost a dollar in the past three days to between \$26.80 and \$27, compared with \$31 a year ago and the last official price of \$28.65 set in October.

The Department of Energy is hoping to be able to announce that the official price structure can be left unchanged early in the month if the gap between the spot price and \$28.65 continues to narrow.

Analysis estimate that of the 1.3 million barrels a day that the British National Oil Corporation is selling, only 20,000 is being sold on contract at the official price. 80,000 is being sold on contract but at the spot price, and the remaining 1.2 million barrels are being channelled through the spot market.

Norway is due to open discussions on its North Sea price next week.

Customers pay a price arrived at by individual negotiation, on a formula which prices oil at a mid-point between the last official price of \$28.60 and the spot price on the day negotiations start.

Britain, however, is anxious to give the new Opec agreement time to work and in particular to see if Nigeria can hold its price for its Bonny Light oil - the crude which most directly compares to North Sea output - at \$28.65.

\$3m contract

Thomson McIntock, one of the top-five British accountancy firms, is to share in a \$3-million (£2.6 million) OPEC price-forecasting contract, which has been awarded to Klynveld Main Gopferder, a worldwide accountancy group of which Thomson is the British member.

Brazil considers offer

last September, the thing it has fought hardest for in talks during the past month.

A key difference, though, is that the spread would not be applied to the whole sum to be rescheduled right away, as in the Mexican case. It will only be applied to individual sums as they mature under the original loan agreements with almost 3,000 borrowers.

That spread - the extra interest on top of a basic floating rate - would bring Brazil extremely close to parity with the Mexican deal struck

on investments of \$621.156 deposit, \$81.169 (£18.20) and subsidiary investment dealing profits \$51,374 (£51,429). Net pre-tax profit \$438,242 (£373,164) after management expenses \$214,920 (£18,336) and interest payable £105,537 (£475,575). Tax £197,209 (£194,045).

S. JEROME AND SONS (HOLDINGS) in the accounts for 1983. Jerome directors stated that after the sale of Davis Security Communications, they had made adequate provision to cover the maximum loss which might fall on group. The provision made proved to be more than adequate. The extent of the over-provision, which has been agreed by the auditors, is £175,000 and will be released to the profit and loss account for year ended, Dec. 31, 1984.

● G.T. JAPAN INVESTMENT (RLST) Results for six months to December 31, Interim Q4p (same). The board will pay about 13p per share in November in respect of the year to June 30, 1985. The total income £758,699 (£1,012 million) comprising dividend and interests

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● LADBROKE GROUP has contracted to purchase the freehold of a Washington DC office complex at 1500 Wisconsin Street. The cost of the purchase, plus planned improvement work will total \$40 million (£41 million). The group's 11st property investment now amounts to \$400 million.

● MORGAN CRUCIBLE reports that its Australian subsidiary has completed the acquisition of Dresser-Industry's subsidiary, Harrison-ACI, and the refractory operations of Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical. The merger of the

● FT Ind Ord 977.54 (-8.6)
FT A All Share 612.75 (-1.87)
FT Govt Securities 79.87 (-0.22)
FT-SE 100 1272.96 (-3.2)
Baird's 26.95
Datastream USM 105.57 (+0.07)
New York
Dow Jones 1278.37 (-7.39)
Tokyo
Nikkei Dow 11,946.98 (-45.25)
Hong Kong
Hang Seng 1,356.28 (-8.28)
Amsterdams 197.18 (+0.2)
Sydney AO 771.8 (-1.5)
Frankfurt
Commerzbank 1156.6 (-4.7)
General 114.28 (+9.2)
Paris, CAC 195.7 (-0.21)
Zurich
SICA General 336.20 (-1.90)

● GOLD
London fixing \$303.60
Zurich \$303.00-\$303.50 (289.25-289.75)
New York
Comex \$303.10

● MAIN PRICE CHANGES
RISES:
Antioagasta Hldg 280p +70p
Sutcliffe, Speakman 30p +4p
Arlow Streamline 25p +4p
Harold Ingram 105p +10p
James Halesale 92p +8p
Mountainview Estates 315p +25p
C H Bailey 23.25p +1.75p
Automated Sec 200p +15p
J & J Dyson 78p +5p
Foster Brothers 128p +8p
Tozer, Kemsley 32p +2p
Raglan Property 18p +1p
M J Corp 33p +2p
Victoria Carpet 218p +8p
Gornall Holdings 218p +8p
Eam 138p +7p
Brent Chemicals 124p +7p
Parings Mining 72p +4p
Falcon Resources 404p +22p

● FALLS:
Espley Trust 15p -3p
Good Relations 210p -20p
I O M Steam Packet 131p -12p
Acorn Computer 40p -3p
E Upton 30p -2p
Milford Docks 78p -5p

BHP in row over the Ok Tedi mine

By Michael Prest

Disagreement between the government of Papua New Guinea and Broken Hill Proprietary, the Australian natural resources company, over the future of the huge Ok Tedi gold and copper mine came to a head yesterday when the government ordered the mine to close by the end of this month.

BHP, which has 30 per cent of the mine and manages it, responded by warning the workers that their employment will end after next Sunday. Mr Irwin Newman, chief general manager of Ok Tedi, said the mine will be mothballed as quickly as possible.

The dispute is over the alleged slowness of BHP and the other private shareholders of the mine, in which the government of Papua New Guinea has 30 per cent, to develop Ok Tedi from a gold producer to the full-scale copper mine originally envisaged.

The mine was started in 1981 when proven reserves stood at 410 million tonnes of ore.

What the self-employed* need most -

Flexibility
If you are self-employed, you will have to make your own pension arrangements. Otherwise, you might end up on a State Pension, which could mean changing your whole way of life.

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That's where our new Flexible Retirement Plan comes in. *It's for anyone who is self-employed, or is in a job with no pension, or has non-pensionable earnings. It provides an income for life on retirement, with the option of a tax-free cash sum. And it's so flexible, we can fit it to meet anyone's needs.

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You can choose regular or single contributions and increase them or, after a year, decrease them when you like. You can miss a year now and again. And even arrange to have your contributions paid by us if you are ill for a long period.

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The funds are managed by teams from Fidelity International, one of the top-performing unit trust groups, and Clerical Medical, a leading UK life office with an outstanding record of returns to its with-profits policyholders.

Fidelity with its proven international expertise in all major international stock markets, will manage the overseas funds. Clerical Medical, with its particular expertise in UK equities, fixed interest and property, will manage the UK funds.

Together they give you the best of both worlds: UK and international investment with superior performance.

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You can choose when you take your benefits at any age between 60 and 75, even if you're still working. If you wish, you can phase in retirement by taking benefits in stages.

When you actually retire, you can decide what combinations of tax-free cash, pension and dependant's pension suits you best. Everyone would like to retire wealthy. Or at least, comfortably off.

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Address _____
Postcode _____
Telephone No. (Home) _____ (Business) _____

My insurance/financial adviser is _____
I am interested in: Regular Contributions Single Contributions

Fidelity INTERNATIONAL **Clerical Medical Investments**

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Stylo chief steps up fight in British Land offer

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Mr Arnold Ziff, chairman of Stylo, was yesterday desperately trying to fight off British Land's tender offer for 50.9 per cent of Stylo's equity...

But it is clear that what Mr Ziff wants is not what the majority of his shareholders want. He appears determined to keep control of Stylo even after years of consistently low returns...

held an investment seminar on the White Horse Scotch whisky in Gordon's gin group on Thursday evening.

BAT Insurances, one of the most keenly sought shares by US investors this week, shaded 5p to 36 1/2p. Mr Nyren Scott-Malden at de Zoete and Bevan, the stockbroker, was revealed upwards by BAT profit forecasts.

Expect takeover action soon from Waterburyhampton Steam Laundry, one of the City's favourite 'fun stocks'.

Good Relations, the public relations group, tumbled 2p to 310p as three, possibly four, of its executive directors said they intended to pack their bags and troop to rivals Addison Com-

Renewed rumours that St Pauls, the US insurer, was about to sell its 26 per cent stake in Minnet Holdings, the insurance broker, sent Minnet's shares ahead.

Harvard Securities brings Townhill Security Group to the Over-the-Counter market this week after an offer for sale.

If the share-buying action succeeds in blocking the British Land tender, as Mr Ziff obviously intends, the likelihood is that the Stylo share price will fall swiftly.

Charterhouse J. Rothschild, the financial group which has sold its merchant banking arm to the Royal Bank of Scotland and its shareholding in Hambro Life Assurance (now controlled by BAT Industries) is rumoured to be on the verge of disposing of its 29.9 per cent stake in Kicat and Aitken, the stockbroker.

Corroon & Black, the US insurance broker, looks the strongest candidate to buy the stake. It already owns 20 per cent of Minnet and has close business contacts with the company.

C. H. Bailey, the Bristol ship repairer, moved up 2 1/2p to 24 1/2p. Latest suggestion is that William Boulton Group, the engineers and ironfounders, could emerge as the bid vehicle.

While buying efforts in the name of Town Centre might keep Mr Ziff secure in his absolute control of Stylo, the potential loss on the 'investment' for TCS shareholders is not pleasant.

Distillers Co., the spirits company, slipped 1p to 20 1/2p. Hoare Govett, the stockbroker,

Acorn Computers fell 3p to 40p, a new low. The company has backed out of a deal to buy

Antofagasta Holdings advanced 6 1/2p to 270p in a thin market and Securiguard rose 5p to 15 1/2p on its security acquisition.

Traded option highlights

It was a quiet day on the London Traded Options market yesterday, with a total of just 7,671 contracts traded.

ment: 1,217 call and 247 put options, changed hands. Elsewhere, only the FT-SE 100 share contract had significant volume, with 532 call and 644 contracts traded.

COMPANY NEWS

IN BRIEF

LDH GROUP P: Half-year to Nov 84 interim dividend (with turnover £287 million (£23.4 million) Pre-tax profit £123,700 (£91,000). EPS 0.89p (0.66p) LDH has been considerably affected in the second half by the weak pound but it expects to produce a surplus and if so will recommend a dividend for the full year.

GLANFIELD LAWRENCE: Corgon Securities offer for the 9.64 million ordinary shares of Glanfield has been unconditional. Corgon's offer has received acceptances in respect of 56.5 per cent. Offer will remain open for acceptance until next Friday and will not be extended.

SECURIGUARD GROUP P: Agreement in principle has been reached for the acquisition by Securiguard of Oms Safeguards for an initial consideration of £1.75 million. The consideration is to be satisfied by the issue of new ordinary shares in Securiguard, all of which will be placed through the market.

RECENT ISSUES

Table with columns: Access Satellite Int 5p Ord (150p), Borealis & Fawcett 10p Ord (100p), CVD (The Com Serv) 5p Ord (50p), etc.

TEMPUS Full steam ahead for P&O-SGT merger

There are no revelations in the official offer documents to the P & O and Sterling Guarantee Trust. P & O's profit estimate for 1984 of £69.5 million is a shade disappointing. This is nearly £13 million up on last year but associated companies, alone, boosted by excellent performance from P & O. It has increased profits by £18 million on a day when the market was depressed anyway.

holders' meeting curiously omitting to mention to his faithful followers that he had launched a £41.7 million rights issue to fund the group's future ambitions.

Arthur Guinness was keen yesterday to stress that its acquisition of Richier Brothers, the American special-food and drinks importers, was in line with the company's stated strategy.

SECURIGUARD GROUP P: Agreement in principle has been reached for the acquisition by Securiguard of Oms Safeguards for an initial consideration of £1.75 million. The consideration is to be satisfied by the issue of new ordinary shares in Securiguard, all of which will be placed through the market.

But the wider issue of why the cash call the first since July 1980, is really necessary at this stage may take longer to be resolved. The £110 million capital expenditure over the last four years has been funded principally from retained earnings, but the board now feels that despite its still considerable cash flow it requires more flexibility.

Guinness has already had considerable success in the US with its speciality beer import business and the extension into speciality foods seems logical. The acquisition should help push up the contribution from the US, in terms of profits and sales, from 3 per cent to a little under 8 per cent.

One important aspect of the offer document which should not be overlooked is the opportunity it affords for P & O deferred shareholders to buy the shares formerly held by SGT at a price of 30p. This too good a chance to miss but shareholders must apply for the shares specifically and the offer is lost if they do not.

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Money Market Cheque Account from Bank of Scotland. Advertisement with large text and Bank of Scotland logo.

SIX MONTH TERM LIMITED ISSUE. Minimum investment £2,000. NET INTEREST PER ANNUM 9.8% = 14.00%.

MONTAGU UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD. Daily Dealing Prices as at 1st February 1985. Table with columns: Unit, Bid, Offer, Change, Yield.

NEW HIGH RATES 1.75% EXTRA GUARANTEED FOR 3 YEARS FROM NATIONWIDE 9-25% = 9-46% = 13-51%.

IS YOUR RETIREMENT INCOME GROWING?? Investors who commit their capital to bank deposit accounts or building societies suffer a fluctuating income as interest rates rise and fall.

Nationwide's new higher interest rates make Capital Bonds an even better buy. The new rate of interest is 9.25% and for real capital growth you can leave the interest, which is credited every 6 months, to go on earning interest itself at the Capital Bond rate, resulting in 9.46%, equivalent to 13.51% to basic rate income tax payers.

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FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

INVESTMENT

A German fund for buffs

Investment trust buffs will be interested by the offer coming up next week from Lloyds Bank International. The bank is launching its new German Smaller Companies Investment Trust on the stock market.

Each share costs £1, but a minimum investment of £200 is needed to invest in the trust. The shares are easy to buy because applications are available at Lloyds branches.

If the trust sounds somewhat esoteric, it is. But that is not necessarily a reason to ignore it. "Smaller Companies" in this context actually means some quite large ones - up to about £200 million in capital - as long as they are not the biggest in their sector.

Holiday offer

They are giving money away at the Leicester Building Society... well, almost. The Page & Moy travel agency is offering holders of Leicestercard accounts £25 free spending money for every £100 they pay for a holiday. Customers can choose from any of 30 leading travel company brochures and to claim the £25, you simply enclose the special voucher published in Leicestercard's More magazine.

Also on offer are commission-free travellers cheques from Citicorp, available at Leicester Building Society branches and a bargain offer on Olympus cameras. Further details from branches of Leicester Building Society.

Midshires loans

Cash is going begging at Midshires Building Society which cannot understand why more borrowers have not taken up its offer of 100 per cent home loans.

Mr Philip Court, chief executive of Midshires, said: "We are currently making available in excess of one third of all our lending to first time purchasers and are amazed to find how few are aware of our 100 per cent scheme." You do not have to be an existing member of Midshires to qualify and no deposit is needed, though you will need some cash for legal fees and furnishings. "Neither of these requirements are

imposed under our scheme which has been specifically designed to benefit those potential housebuyers who are able to manage regular repayments, but do not have a lump sum saved to put down as a deposit on their first home," commented Mr Court. Houses eligible for 100 per cent loans must be built after 1919 and valued at not more than £40,000. Interest rate is 13.5 per cent and monthly repayments, net of tax relief on a £25,000 loan work out at £220.00.

Dealing hotline

Quilter Goodfellow, the stockbroker, has streamlined its private client service to offer three alternatives. For those with £2,500 to £50,000 there is the Managed Service. Investment is split between gilts, and Quilter's Quadrant Unit Trusts.

This seems a severe limitation - on the service since Quilter's Quadrant funds have shown only mediocre performance in both the long and short-term. For customers with £50,000 or more there is a portfolio management service with an investment strategy worked out with the client.

Quilter says: "The client can specify the amount of income they would like to receive." Let us hope it explains that if the portfolio does not perform, the client might be eating into his capital. For those customers who manage their own affairs and pick their own shares, there is a dealing hotline service

where speed of dealing is the priority. The desk is equipped with direct telephone lines with a two-way radio link to the floor of the Stock Exchange, Quilter says.

Universal Life Plan

The Universal Life Plan is not, as its name suggests, a policy which guarantees that you will not die, but is one of the new breed of hybrid, flexible, life and savings plans - this time from Property Growth.

For a minimum premium of £15 a month, investors can decide on whatever mix of live cover and savings they require, with considerable flexibility to chop and change. Money not used to provide life cover is invested in Property Growth unitized funds - not the most exciting performers but showing a perfectly respectable return.

The key question, though, is how much will you be charged for the life cover. It does not look cheap. Property Growth quotes life cover of £216,000 for a premium of £30 a month, for anyone under the age of 29 who is a non-smoker.

The same premium paid to Equitable Life would buy nearly £300,000 worth of cover and the premium would remain constant throughout the 20-year term. The Property Growth plan revises the premium rate (almost certainly upwards) every year. Of course, you might not want such high life cover, but the point is that the

amount left to invest is dependent on what you are paying for the life cover. There are some useful options to stop payment of premiums and restart them at a later date, increase the sum assured, pay in lump sums and many other gadgets. But you pay quite a high price for this flexibility. Details from Property Growth, Leon House, High Street, Croydon CR9 1LU.



Mobile policy: cover includes stampeding animals

Caravan cover

insuring a mobile home or caravan can be tricky since it is subject to a number of risks to which the normal family home would not be liable. Dominion Insurance has come up with a policy which covers

such bizarre risks as falling lamp-posts, and stampeding animals, along with the more conventional risks of fire, subsidence and heave. There is a £25 excess on the policy which means that you have to pay the first £25 of each claim, the figure rising to £100 for subsidence claims. Premiums charged are 30p per £100 for the caravan or mobile home itself (with a minimum premium of £21 or £7,000 worth of cover). Contents cover costs 40p per £100 with a minimum premium of £18 for £4,000 worth. Details from Dominion Insurance, 92 Gracechurch Street, EC3 (Tel: 01-823 1301).

Sums that hurt

It always seems far too soon to be thinking about retirement until it suddenly dawns on you that D-Day is looming. M & G has produced a table which dramatically highlights the price you pay for leaving pension provision until late in life.

To provide a pension fund of just over £250,000 at age 65, you would need to put away only £1,000 a year if you are now aged 35. Five years later you must pay nearly 80 per cent more at a cost of £1,794 a year. By age 45 the sums are beginning to hurt with an estimated £3,279 a year needed to fund that £250,000 at retirement age. At age 50 the annual contributions have almost doubled again to £6,220 a year and five years later the figure is a

massive £12,772 a year. The figures assume an annual compound growth rate of the underlying investments of 12 per cent in each case. The message is clear - do not hang about.

Holiday warning

Up to 500,000 people planning holidays and business trips this year will make a claim as a result of illness, injury or theft, according to the British Insurance Association. A BIA spokesman said: "It is important to check early on insurance arrangements, because half of all holiday insurance claims arise when people cannot even start their trip through their own illness or injury, or perhaps the ill health or death of a close relative."

The BIA has just published a leaflet Holiday Insurance which gives guidance on the types of cover readily available as well as advice on the insurance arrangements you should make if taking your car abroad. The leaflet does not give you one vital piece of information - which company sells the best policy. However, generally speaking, the insurance cover offered by four operators is good value for money because the last thing the operator wants is to incur any liability itself for something which should have been covered by the insurance. A copy of the BIA leaflet is obtainable from Department T, BIA, Aldermany House, Queen Street, London EC4N 1TU.

HOW MUCH WILL YOUR HOME LOAN COST

Society	Up to 15,000 %	15,000-20,000 %	20,000-25,000 %	25,000-30,000 %	30,000-35,000 %	35,000-40,000 %	40,000-45,000 %	45,000-50,000 %	Over 50,000 %
Abbey National	13.00	13.25	13.25	13.50	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75
Alliance	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.50	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
Anglia	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.75	13.75
Bradford & Bingley	13.00	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50
Cheltenham & Gloucester	13.00	13.00	13.50	13.50	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75
C&G Gold Loan	-	-	-	-	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50
Halifax	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.50	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
Leeds	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.25	13.50	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75
Leicester	13.00	13.00	13.50	13.50	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75
National & Prov	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50
Nationwide	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875
Woolwich	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875	12.875
Gateway	13.00	13.25	13.50	13.50	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
Bristol & West	12.75	13.00	13.25	13.25	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75
Yorkshire	12.75	13.25	13.50	13.50	13.75	13.75	14.00	14.00	14.00
Britannia	12.75	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.25	13.25	14.00	14.00	14.00

Banks: TSB has announced one rate of 15%. NatWest rate 12.875%. Barclays 13.25 per cent. Other high street banks have not announced new rates.

MORTGAGES

Home loan costs near record level

These are not good times for borrowers. With the latest home loan rises, the real cost of borrowing for home owners - the amount by which mortgage rates exceed inflation - has begun nudging record highs again. Indeed, it has never been higher since the Depression in the 1930s. Following last week's rise in base rates the Trustee Savings Bank increased its lending rate a full 3 per cent to 15 per cent. This gives a real borrowing cost after tax relief of nearly 6 per cent.

But this is by far the highest rate now on offer. Building society loans are still at least 2 per cent lower, even after the last rate rise. The majority of the large societies have opted to go for a straight forward 13 per cent for their basic rate on repayment loans, rising to around 13.75 per cent on large amounts.

The Alliance, the Halifax and the Gateway, however, all go higher than this on bigger loans,

charging a maximum of 14 per cent.

The Nationwide and the Woolwich remain the cheapest societies to borrow from - particularly on larger loans. Both charge only 12.875 per cent.

However, this is matched by a sinister development among bank lenders. Since they first appeared in strength in the mortgage market in 1978 the clearing banks have also been relatively cheap for bigger loans, charging no differentials to larger borrowers. This seems to be changing now.

Although National Westminster, the largest mortgage lender among the clearing banks, still matches the Woolwich and Nationwide's rates, others do not. On Thursday Barclays announced a system of differentials on new mortgages, currently rising to a comparatively high 14.25 per cent on loans over £30,000. Lloyds Bank introduced a similar system last

autumn.

This may indicate how the other banks will eventually go. If so, it is clearly in the interests of large new mortgage borrowers to get their loans from the other clearing banks before differentials are introduced.

On top of this bad news, mortgage borrowers faced the possibility earlier this week that rates might rise again following the base rate surge to 14 per cent. Fortunately the pressure on base rates eased considerably by the end of the week. But although building societies were still sounding cautious, they did not entirely rule out a further mortgage rise.

Mr Tom Taylor, assistant general manager of the Halifax, said: "It is still a case of waiting and seeing how things settle down. If there is no prospect of a downward move in base rates when the Building Societies Association meets next Thursday we would have to consider

raising our own rates."

For investors, of course, the picture is not nearly so bleak. The building societies' 30 million depositors will have been cheered by the 0.75 percentage point increase in most basic building society accounts. Moreover, few of the margins paid on premium accounts were whittled down this time.

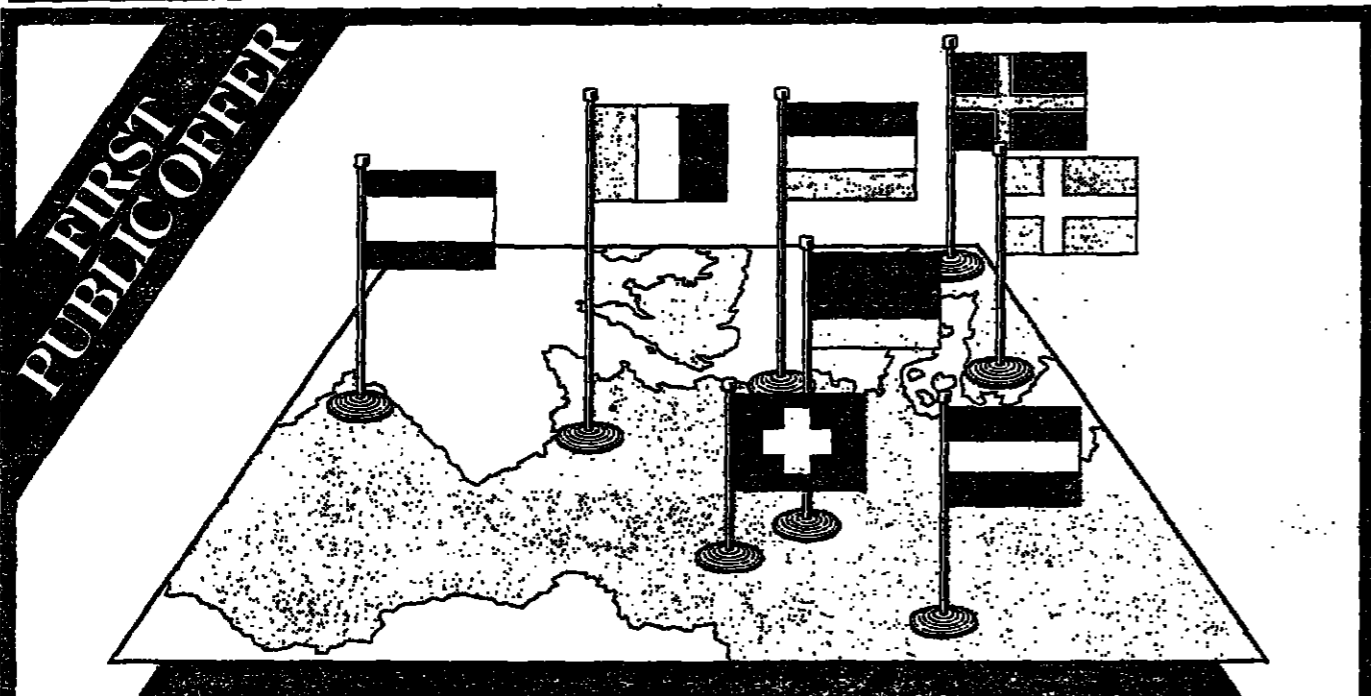
The small but aggressive Skipton building society is paying on its Sovereign shares 9.35 per cent on amounts over £500 and a full 9.7 per cent on deposits of more than £10,000. Both the Chelsea and Peckham societies offer higher interest - 9.75 per cent - but their accounts require one and three months notice respectively. Skipton requires none. Bristol & West offers 9.45 per cent on its Triple Bonus account, but only for amounts over £20,000.

Richard Thomson

MONTHLY REPAYMENTS ON A NEW 25 YEAR REPAYMENT LOAN

Mortgage Rate %	Net of Basic Rate Tax Relief								Gross
	£1,000	£10,000	£15,000	£20,000	£25,000	£30,000	£40,000	£50,000	
12.5	8.32	83.20	124.80	166.40	208.00	249.60	440.00	550.00	660.00
12.75	8.45	84.50	126.75	169.00	211.25	252.80	447.60	559.50	671.40
13.0	8.58	85.60	128.40	171.12	214.00	255.60	454.80	568.20	682.20
13.25	8.66	86.60	129.90	173.20	216.50	258.00	462.40	578.00	693.60
13.4	8.80	88.00	132.00	176.00	220.00	264.00	470.00	587.50	705.00
13.75	8.90	89.00	133.50	178.00	222.50	267.00	477.60	597.94	716.38
14.0	9.04	90.40	135.50	180.80	226.00	271.20	485.20	606.50	727.80
14.25	9.15	91.50	137.25	183.00	228.75	274.50	492.80	616.00	739.20
14.5	9.29	92.90	139.35	185.80	232.25	278.25	500.40	626.50	750.60
14.75	9.40	94.00	141.00	188.00	235.00	282.00	508.00	636.00	762.00
15.0	9.54	95.40	143.10	190.80	238.50	286.20	516.00	645.00	774.00

Homebuyers are entitled to mortgage interest relief at their highest rate of tax paid (up to 60 per cent) on the first £30,000 of a loan. Below this figure tax relief at the basic rate is allowed for at source. Above £30,000 mortgage repayments are made gross and tax relief claimed separately.



An investment idea whose time has come.

THE RIGHT AREA

Important developments are taking place on the Stock Markets of Continental Europe.

In many countries there has been a fundamental reassessment of the role and value of share investment as a means of financing industrial development. As a result, many new companies have been encouraged to seek quotations, and there has been a dramatic increase in international interest in European markets. Already Europe accounts for about 9.5% of the total value of world stock markets - and it is expected that this proportion will increase rapidly over the years ahead.

THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITIES

A fundamental consequence of these changes is that the shares of many more small companies are now quoted on Europe's stock markets. And in several countries local equivalents of our Unlisted Securities Market have been developed specifically to help smaller companies come to the market.

Such companies often operate in technologically advanced industries and because of their size tend to be relatively free from external interference and to be able to continue to work on high profit margins. Elsewhere in the world, smaller companies have shown much greater than average growth - a fact clearly instanced by the long term

performance of Henderson American Smaller Companies Trust which has achieved 304%* growth over the 6 years since its launch in 1978.

At Henderson we believe the time is right to invest in the smaller companies of Europe and we are now launching a new unit trust to enable you to do just that.

THE RIGHT MANAGERS

The objective of Henderson European Smaller Companies Trust is to achieve above average growth through investment in the shares of companies quoted on the stock markets of Europe (excl. the U.K.) and which have capitalisation of less than £50 million. The estimated gross annual yield will be 10%.

The trust will be managed by the same team that manages over £2.3 billion of investors' funds and which has an outstanding track record of international investment performance. The Henderson European Trust, for example, has (including reinvested net income) achieved an increase in value of 486%* over the last 10 years. At the present time, the Group currently has over £70 million invested in Continental Europe.

The managers plan to spread the new trust's portfolio broadly and to manage it actively. Initially, the portfolio is expected to be distributed: France 30%, Norway 25%, Germany 10%, Holland 10%, Sweden 5%, Switzerland 5%, Belgium 5%, others (including Spain, Denmark, Austria, Italy and Finland) 10%.

THE RIGHT IDEA

If you share our view that Henderson European Smaller Companies Trust is an idea whose time has come you can invest at the fixed launch offer price of 50p per unit, simply by returning the application form below, together with your cheque either directly to the managers or through your professional adviser by Friday, 15th February 1985.

You should remember however that the price of units in a unit trust and the income from them can go down as well as up and that you should regard your investment as long term. *offer to offer basis net income reinvested to 31/7/85

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

An initial charge of 5%* on the assets (equivalent to 5% of the issue price) is made by the managers when units are issued. Out of the initial charge, managers pay remuneration to qualified intermediaries, rates available on request. The Trust Deed provides for an annual charge of 1%* (plus VAT) on the value of the Trust to be deducted from the gross income to cover administration costs.

Distributions of income will be paid on 10th December each year, net of basic rate tax. Contract notes will be issued and unit certificates will be provided within eight weeks of payment. To sell units, endorse your certificates and send it to the managers. Payment will normally be made within seven working days.

Unit Trusts are not subject to capital gains tax, moreover, a unit holder will not pay this tax on a disposal of units unless the total realised gains from all sources in his tax year amount to more than £5,600. Prices and Yields can be found daily in the Financial Times. Trustee: Midland Bank Trust Co. Limited, 119 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1AQ. Managers: Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, 26 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1DA. Registrar: Office of Financial Services, London EC4A 1DA. Registration Number: 856263 England. A member of the Unit Trust Association.

Henderson European Smaller Companies Trust

To: Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited, Dealing Department, 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Broomfield, Essex CM15 1AA. Telephone: 01-638 5757.

I/We wish to buy _____ units in Henderson European Smaller Companies Trust at the fixed price of 50p per unit. (Minimum initial investment £500.) I/We enclose remittance of £ _____ payable to Henderson Unit Trust Management Limited.

This offer will close 15th February 1985. After the close of this offer, units will be available at the daily quoted price. If there are joint applicants each must sign and attach names and addresses separately.

Broker Stamp: _____

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____ First Name(s) _____

Address _____

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

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FAMILY MONEY

SAVINGS

Go bargain-hunting among the high-interest accounts

While homebuyers are still smarting from the sting of higher home loan rates (the hapless TSB borrowers are being caned with a 15 per cent mortgage rate), savers must be rubbing their hands with glee. It has been over 30 years since investors in cash-rich securities like bank and building society deposits have seen such a high real return on their money. With inflation running at around 5 to 6 per cent and the net return from bank and building societies touching 9.5 per cent, they have never had it so good.

Couple today's high interest rates with the pressure placed on the banks to offer more competitive services to savers, and there are some astonishing bargains around in the form of high-interest cheque accounts.

From April the banks and other deposit-taking institutions will all be obliged to pay interest after deduction of basic rate tax - bringing them into line with building society practice. If they are not to show up in a bad light beside the building societies, they have to offer better rates than those paid on the traditional seven days' notice deposit accounts which have long offered a poor deal.

The upshot has been a rash of high-interest cheque accounts which now compete directly with both the money funds and the building societies.

The table shows what is on offer. Probably the most attractive deals are from Citibank Savings with its Cheque Plus account and the Cheque & Save scheme offered by the Co-op. Both have no minimum or either investment or withdrawal and offer full cheque-book facilities.



Fight for funds: Lloyds looks the best of the big four

Charterhouse has no restriction on the amount which can be withdrawn by cheque but you have to put a minimum of £2,500 into the account - a minimum some investors might find difficult to achieve.

Most of these accounts are meant to be used like a deposit account. With the exception of the three banks mentioned, plus Lloyds (which launches its account next month), the cheque-book facility is limited and the banks are clearly hoping that people will only use the

and the inflow at £70 million exceeds our initial expectations", said Mr Peter Seymour.

How much of this is NatWest's own customers shifting money from seven-day deposit is difficult to judge, but NatWest claims to be taking in a substantial proportion of new money from competition.

Secondly, however, feel the drought when Lloyds gets going next month Lloyds has introduced a higher minimum investment - but at £2,500 it is only £500 more than the NatWest account. More importantly, it has placed no restrictions on writing cheques. Of the big four banks, the Lloyds account looks the most attractive - though still not so appealing as the Citibank and Co-op schemes.

But the schemes have two drawbacks. First, you cannot overdraw - though since most users will already have a current account (in which they can overdraw) this is not much of a limitation.

Secondly, they will all be subject to the new regime which comes into force in April. Basic rate tax will have to be deducted at source from all interest payments - and will not be reclaimable by a non-taxpayer.

The arbitrary way in which the Government has imposed this restriction on non-taxpayers is outrageous. Needless to say, the opportunity has been taken to benefit the Treasury coffers. Of all financial institutions, the National Savings Bank will remain free to pay interest without deduction of tax. After April, the only alternative to NSB for the non-taxpayer will be the offshore money funds which will continue to pay interest gross.

HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS

Fund	Interest Rate-APR*	Minimum deposit	Minimum withdrawal	Cheque book	Notice	Telephone
Atkin Hume	12.96	2,500	500	yes	call	01-638 6370
Bank of Scotland	13.02	2,500	250	yes	call	01-628 8060
Barclays	13.1	2,500	250	yes	call	0604 252891
Britannia	14.36	2,500	250	yes	call	01-588 2777
Citibank	14.48	-	-	yes	call	01-748 9251
Charterhouse Japhet	14.085	2,500	1	yes	call	01-248 3998
Co-op Cheque & Save	14.75	1	1	yes	call	01-626 6543
Darlington	13.5	2,000	500	no	call	0803-862271
Henderson	13.02	2,500	250	yes	call	01-638 5757
HCF Trust & Savings	14.4	-	-	no	call	01-236 8391
Lloyds	-	2,500	-	yes	call	01-626 1500
M&G	14.4	2,500	200	yes	call	0245 51651
Midland	13.2	2,000	200	yes	call	0742 20999
NatWest	14.48	2,000	250	no	call	01-726 1064
Oppenheimer Money Mgmt	14.34	1,000	200	yes	call	01-236 1425
Save & Prosper	14.00	2,500	250	yes	call	0708 66966
Schroder	14.37	2,500	250	yes	call	01-382 8226
Tullet & Riley/Call	14.08	10,000	1,000	no	call	01-236 0952
Tullet & Riley/7 Day	12.92	2,500	1,000	no	7 days	01-236 0852
Tyndall/Call	13.88	2,500	250	no	7 days	0272 732241
Tyndall/7 Day	12.55	2,500	250	yes	7 days	0272 732241
United Domains Trust	12.15	5,000	1,000	no	7 days	01-626 4581
Western Trust & Savings	12.75	2,000	200	yes	call	0752 251161

* Annual percentage rate. ** Available from mid-February.

Smaller Unit Trust Group of the Year

All over the world emerging companies are showing exciting growth potential.

The new generation Fund, investing in smaller companies and young industries.

All over the world exciting investment opportunities are being created by new industries, small companies that have recently been publicly floated, and organisations undergoing dramatic change.

Among industries like telecommunications, computer technology and electronics new growth areas are achieving profit growth beyond the reach of many older dominant industries.

Smaller companies or those recently floated or subject to takeover or merger can enable new managements - often highly motivated by personal stock holdings - to achieve spectacular results.

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The research and analysis required is at a level that the individual investor would be hard pressed to achieve alone. Over the last ten years Perpetual has developed a worldwide network of independent financial advisers - an ideal platform from which to identify successful emerging companies.

An exciting start The International Emerging Companies Fund was launched on the 22nd September 1984 and in the four months since, the other price of units had, as at the 29th January 1985, already increased by 22.6%.

Clearly this is only short term performance but it represents a healthy start to what we believe is an exciting investment opportunity. However, you should accept that unit values can go down as well as up.



Successful international record

Over the last decade our two established international Funds have already proved to be excellent investment choices. The International Growth Fund, since its launch on the 11th September 1974, has increased an original investment of £10,000 to a current worth of £185,500 and is Britain's top authorised unit trust for capital growth over the period since launch to 31st January 1985. The Worldwide Recovery Fund, since its launch on the 23rd January 1982, has increased an original investment of £10,000 to a current worth of £22,270 as at the 31st January 1985.

Special offer - act now! Full details of the new Fund are set out in the Prospectus which can be obtained by posting the coupon below to the Managers.

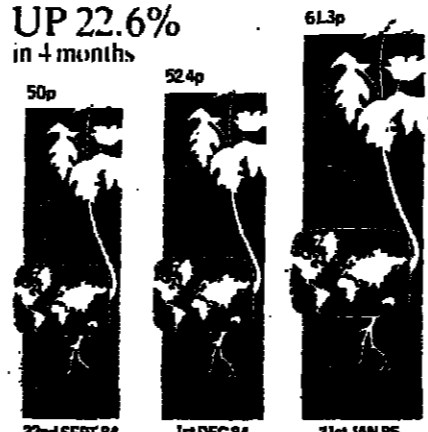
Perpetual is currently in excess of £150m under management.

Perpetual Group International Emerging Companies Fund

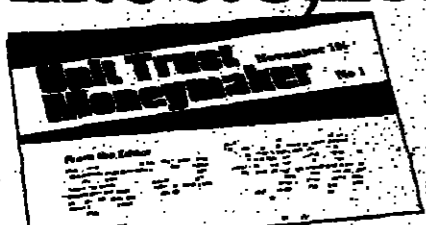
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The Managers of Fidelity Japan Unit Trust have been unusually busy. In the past three years they could have taken your £1,000 into £3,291. Sadly the Managers of another well-known Unit Trust have also been busy - but to less effect. They would have reduced your £1,000 to a mere £830* over the same period. Which all goes to show that the 600+ authorised Unit Trusts do not all perform equally. And if you already hold some Unit Trusts, or if you intend to buy Unit Trusts in the near future, then you should consider your investment very carefully.

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In the past few years Unit Trusts have steadily emerged as a highly secure and potentially profitable investment vehicle. But as the number of Unit Trusts available has increased, so too have the risks. A number of ground rules have been established:

- 1) Do not be complacent. Unit Trusts can go down as well as up. However, most Unit Trusts are a solid and secure investment. The average growth over the last three years, incidentally, across all funds, is + 83.7%.
- 2) Be prepared to chop and change. You will protect and increase your profits. It is wrong to think that all Unit Trusts perform equally or that they need stay with a Unit Trust for a long period of time.
- 3) Keep yourself well informed. Act only on inside and proven knowledge.

UNIT TRUST MONEYMAKER - THE SECRET OF SUCCESS

Unit Trust Moneymaker is a confidential monthly action guide devoted entirely to helping you maximise your profits from Unit Trusts and other managed funds. The editorial board consists of a panel of city and financial experts. Every month you can look forward to comprehensive and valuable contents including:

- 1) Which Unit Trusts are the best performers - we examine a number of funds in detail, look at future prospects, and explain our choices.
- 2) Top tips on when to buy and when to sell.
- 3) The recommended "Hot Tip of the Month" - one Unit Trust winner which has been

really checked out by our specialist team.

- 4) Unit Trusts to avoid and sell - and the reasons why.
- 5) We expose all the hidden secrets of the Unit Trust business - how what's good for an investment manager isn't necessarily good for his clients - remember trust managers act in business like anybody else.
- 6) We also investigate other managed funds - currency funds, investment trusts, commodity funds and insurance linked packages.

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That's right, we are so confident that our advice is sound we believe £500 will be worth £1,000 in just six months. Everyone is welcome to enter our FREE PRIZE DRAW which takes place on 30th April 1985. A full list of Free Prize Draw winners is available on receipt of a s.a.e. Winners' names are published in UTM.

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BANKER'S ORDER Please pay to the order of Standard Publications Ltd, No. 7 Ave. No. 01082322, at Midland Bank plc, Kingsbridge 04 10, the sum of £46 two months after the date shown and thereafter on the anniversary of the date shown each year the sum of £69 being my membership subscription to Unit Trust Moneymaker and debit my/our account accordingly until countermanded by me in writing.

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AMOUNT INVESTED	INTEREST PA*	GROSS PA†
£500 or more	9.00%	12.86%
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£20,000 or more	9.50%	13.57%

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FAMILY MONEY

BENEFITS

Discrepancies in heating allowances under attack

Those who enjoy seeing Cabinet ministers embarrassed would have taken delight in Mrs Thatcher's shuffling off of some heavy fire on to Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services.

Mr Fowler, she announced, was reviewing the system of extra heating payments in bad weather for pensioners and others on supplementary benefit.

In fact, at the time, he was not. Now he is. For the bitter weather that has swept up the country in the past month has shown that the new "objective" way of deciding when to pay is a long way short of satisfactory.

In the winter of 1981-82, when the "exceptionally severe weather" payments were last triggered, the decision lay largely in the discretion of local benefit offices. In fact the whole country qualified.

The discrepancies between local offices over when they paid and for how long led to a new system being introduced. This involves a formula of fearsome complexity based on the temperature at 18 weather stations around Britain. When the mean temperature for a day drops below 15.5C (60F), one "degree day" is recorded for each degree below the mark.

Each station then has a target number of degree days, which the Met Office calculates should be reached at that particular station once every five years. If the target is reached, claims are invited. But that is only the beginning.

Payments are made on a percentage of the bill based on how long the weather has been exceptionally cold, and only people with less than £500 capital qualify. If they have more, they are expected to spend the extra first.

The system has come under fire on four grounds. First it operates only on the meters based at 18 points round the country. Payments for Kent, for example, are governed by a thermometer at Heathrow. In the week Kent was buried in snow, the temperature at Heathrow did not get low enough for Kent to qualify. The next week, when the weather was better, it did. The areas covered are far too wide to allow for local variations even between counties in the weather.

Second, because the trigger point is meant to be hit once every five years, it generally has to be colder in the north than the south to qualify. Scottish OAPs, the argument seems to go, are tougher than their southern counterparts and do not need the extra money to help avoid hypothermia. Scotland has yet to qualify this winter.

Third, the trigger points are worked out weekly, but the payment made over the period of a bill, if bills are paid weekly, is an exceptionally cold week will entitle people to help.

But if the bill is monthly or quarterly, claimants can find that mild spells either side of a bitterly cold one can mean the average temperature over the bill period has been too high for them to qualify. This has happened to some claimants with quarterly bills in East Anglia whose entitlement in last month's blizzard has been cancelled by a mild Christmas.

Quite how a pensioner, worried about her fuel bill, is meant to know when she can risk turning up the heating when warmer weather a week or two later can cancel her entitlement is not clear.

Fourth, the Department of Health and Social Security does a lousy job of telling people they are entitled to help. It relies on posters, leaflets and stories in the local press.

Nicholas Timmins

CURRENT ACCOUNTS

Working out the hidden costs of banking

Though banks like Midland have moved towards free banking, the quarterly item labelled "bank charges" is still the source of much irritation for many bank customers. All the banks publish a tariff of their personal account charges, but only NatWest provides a breakdown of how the charges are levied.

More important, what legal right does the bank have to deduct arbitrary sums from your account?

Even the banks' entitlement to claim charges in the first place, is "fairly obscure" as a general rule when you open an account you do not sign anything which can be construed as an agreement to bear bank charges. Nor is there anything in the Banking Acts which declares that "Thou shalt pay bank charges".

Instead the legal foundation underpinning bank charges is an implied one: it is based on customary banking practice and the nature of the banker-customer relationship. In other words because charges are and have always been charged, banks are entitled to be paid them.

As if this was not sufficiently unsatisfactory banks do not publish a full list of their charges: the standard charges - such as the costs of direct debits and writing cheques - are published and displayed. But many others never see the light of day.

How much, for example, would regular weekly statements cost you? If you lost your cheque book would you receive a replacement free?

And if your bank manager writes to censure you for exceeding your overdraft limit, will this letter cost you any money?

The answer to these and other similar questions usually depends on your individual branch manager and your relationship with him. Banks do have tariffs for such matters, but these are issued only to managers as guidelines rather than absolute charges.

The problem is that often a customer will not be told that they have incurred such a charge or will not be able to see from their statement that it has been levied.

Nor are the amounts involved always trivial: if you do not qualify for free banking with the Midland Bank, for example, then each statement over and above the quarterly ones costs you 40p.

An irate letter from your bank manager would, if you were charged for it, cost a minimum of £7.50 if you bank with National Westminster or £5 with Barclays. So a spate of heated correspondence could prove expensive.

Charges for letters are part of a policy adopted by almost all the clearing banks, of authorizing themselves to charge for management and support team time, where more time has had to be devoted to an accounts than would be necessary in normal circumstances.

The moral of the story is to ask whether a charge will be levied before you request anything that involves the bank in effort on your behalf. As many items are discretionary by asking you may avoid or reduce the intended charge.

And if in doubt as to how the bank charges on your statement are calculated, ask for a breakdown, making sure first that you will not be charged for this too!

Lawrence Levy

UNIT TRUSTS

Income funds lead pack

It is impossible not to be impressed with the track record of the income unit trusts. "This is the great unsung story of the unit trust industry", Mr Keith Crowley, marketing director of Britannia commented.

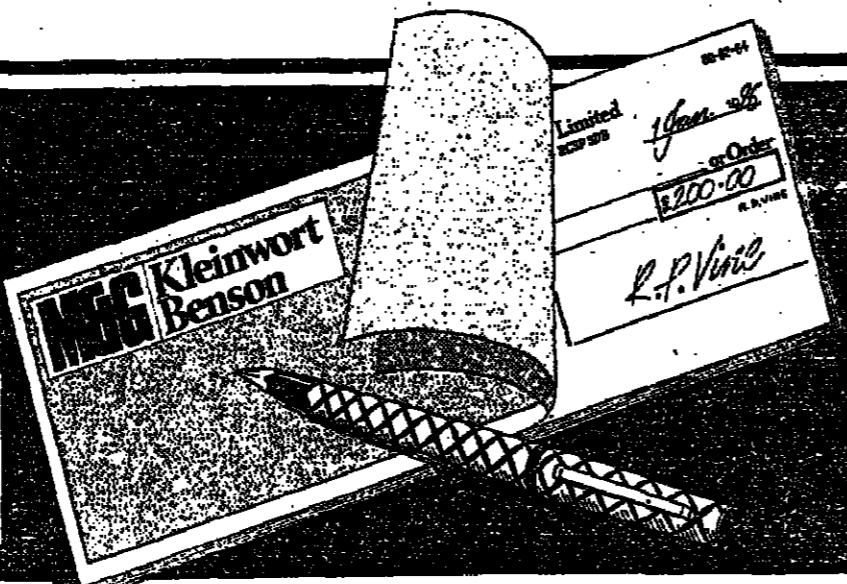
To get the message home to investors, Britannia is regularly going to issue comparisons between income unit trusts and other income-producing investment such as building societies, and National Savings.

The accompanying table shows the startling performance of the best income funds against the more traditional investments.

£1,000 invested over 10 years to January 1, 1985

Investment	Current value
Bank deposit	£ 1,759
Building society	2,139
National Savings Bank investment account	2,308
Median Income Trust	8,017
Framlington Income	17,020
Schroder Income	14,953
Profit Income	14,456
Germans Income	13,142
M & G Dividend	12,169
Britannia Income and Growth	7,142
Britannia High Income	6,320

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AS AT 31.1.85
WHICH IS AN EFFECTIVE
ANNUAL RATE OF
14.4%



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HIGH INTEREST After your initial cheque has been cleared, the account starts earning daily interest at a higher rate than is usually available on a bank deposit account.

Interest earned on your account will vary from time to time, moving in line with the best rates available in the London Money Market for institutions with substantial sums to invest. Interest is compounded each working day, so that interest is earned on your interest and a daily rate of 13.5%, for example, is equivalent to an annual percentage rate (APR) of 14.4%. Rates will be published daily in the Financial Times.

A REGULAR INCOME If you maintain at least £5,000 in your account you can have the total interest earned, or a specific amount, transferred monthly to your current account with a clearing bank.

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Amount to be deposited **£** 00 Please make your cheque payable to Kleinwort, Benson Limited

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Country of domicile (if NOT UK) _____
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Address for correspondence _____
 Post Code _____

For joint accounts, both parties must sign the application, but only one signature will be required to operate the account or to revoke this mandate.

Signature (1) _____ Date _____
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	5 YEARS from 1 Jan 1980	10 YEARS from 1 Jan 1975	15 YEARS from 1 Jan 1970
Amount paid in	1,200	2,400	3,600
M&G Dividend	2,289	7,513	16,705
M&G Recovery	1,913	8,446	22,734
M&G SECOND	2,039	7,262	15,320
FT. Industrial Ordinary Index	2,160	6,143	11,259
Building Society Savings Account	1,499	3,840	7,196

Source: Planned Savings. All performance figures include income reinvested net of basic-rate tax. The figures for the M&G Funds are 'bid' prices. You should remember that past performance is no guarantee for the future.

SAVINGS PLANS FOR CHILDREN
 The minimum age for the Unit Trust Savings Plan is 14, but accounts for younger children can be opened in the name of an adult and designated with the child's full name.

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I wish my subscriptions to be invested in the Fund circled.

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CHELTENHAM GOLD ACCOUNT	APPLIED RATE	EFFECTIVE ANNUAL RATE**	GROSS EQUIVALENT ANNUAL RATE
£1,000 OR MORE INTEREST PAID ANNUALLY	9.00% NET	9.00% NET	12.86% GROSS
CHELTENHAM GOLD MONTHLY INTEREST ACCOUNT			
£5,000 OR MORE INTEREST PAID MONTHLY	9.00% NET	9.38% NET	13.40% GROSS

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 *ACTR 400 BRANCHES AND AGENTS. SEE YELLOW PAGES. **EFFECTIVE ANNUAL RATE WHEN INTEREST IS ADDED TO THE ACCOUNT. *GROSS EQUIVALENT FOR BASIC RATE TAX PAYERS.

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FAMILY MONEY

BUSINESS EXPANSION SCHEMES

New funds rush to beat the Budget

The next few days sees a rush of Business Expansion Schemes, most of them soundly asset-backed, hastily brought out by their sponsors to beat any potential crackdown by the Chancellor in his Budget on March 19. Whether or not they conform to the spirit of the BES legislation, designed to encourage small investors to put up money for new and more risky ventures, is dubious. But there is no doubt that, like the BES farming funds, which dipped up millions of investors' tax-sheltered money before the Chancellor put a stop to this abuse last year, these new property and asset-backed funds have enormous appeal to investors.

Latest entrants to the field include four property development companies: one fine wine investment company and a general BES fund which will invest in small to medium-sized unquoted companies. Most appealing are the property development schemes - Lockton Developments, sponsored by the merchant bankers, Guinness Mahon; London & Bristol Developments and City Gate Estates, both sponsored by the investment adviser Johnson Fry, who had such a success with Central City Conversions last month; and St James Estates, sponsored by United Trust and Credit, due to be launched in about 10 days.

Unless something goes disastrously wrong, it is virtually impossible for investors to lose money. And they should make a very handsome profit.

The real bonus in these schemes comes from the generous tax relief available to investors in BES companies or funds. Income tax relief at the investor's highest rate paid is available on up to £40,000 invested during the current tax year. For a 60 per cent taxpayer, the chance of simply getting his

original investment back is more than sufficient incentive to invest because he gets such a handsome return from the tax relief. Property development companies, where most of the cash is used to acquire property, are a pretty safe bet. A BES scheme is an ideal means of financing an operation like property development, profits on which are notoriously vulnerable to high interest rates. By raising equity capital instead of going up on borrowings, much of the risk associated with property development is removed. Charles Fry of Johnson Fry, says "Central City Conversions was not geared at all and investors were guaranteed the first 10 per cent profit before the management company received any profits at all."

Mr Fry reckons that this fund, now closed, which raised a record £5 million, is the biggest fund to date with the exception of Hill Samuel's Beechbank Farm Fund.

Of the two new funds he is sponsoring, London & Bristol Developments is involved in small commercial properties for owner occupation and City Gate Estates, like its predecessor, Central City Conversions, is refurbishing residential property.

London & Bristol Developments has the longer track record in the property field. Its two executive directors, Mr Peter Davidson and Mr Ronald Berger, have been developing commercial properties with backing from the institutions under the London & Paris Properties banner.

The fund can borrow up to twice its equity capital, which to some extent makes it less attractive since it reintroduces the interest rate risk into development. On the other hand, the directors do have considerable experience of

commercial property development so I should also maximise the profit potential. Management charges are 3 per cent of development costs with 35 per cent of profits payable to the management company at the end of the five-year term. The fund is hoping to raise £5 million.

Lockton Developments, sponsored by Guinness Mahon, is not so straightforward, with a vaguer and wider brief than the two Johnson Fry funds. The prospectus says: "Lockton Developments plc will be active in commercial, industrial and retail developments for which it will acquire freehold and leasehold sites in good locations. It will adopt a conservative policy towards property development in order to achieve a secure growth in its assets."

The board consists of a number of serving or former directors of Guinness Mahon, some with "experience in the field of property development and investment". Borrowing is limited to 33 per cent of total development costs at any one time and the fund is hoping to raise between £750,000 and £7.5 million.

The fourth property-based fund has yet to be unveiled but its sponsors, United Trust and Credit, says it will carry blue chip names in the property world on its board. Again, it is going for the London residential property market, and will buy up large houses for redevelopment into flats for owner occupation.

To ensure easy sale of the refurbished properties finance has been arranged for potential purchasers with a leading bank. More details next week. Of the two other new BES

anything. This fund too is geared two to one on borrowing and is hoping to raise a minimum of £750,000 or a maximum of £2.5 million.

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To ensure easy sale of the refurbished properties finance has been arranged for potential purchasers with a leading bank. More details next week. Of the two other new BES

NEW BES FUNDS

Table with columns: Fund/company, Sponsor, Business, Minimum investment, Amount to raise, Closing date. Includes London & Bristol Developments, City Gate Estates, Lockton Developments, St James Estates, To be announced (Scott's Restaurant), Alpha III.

*All funds may close before their closing date if they reach their maximum subscription level before then.



Charles Fry: his company is sponsoring newcomers

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Table showing Value of investment after paying monthly income at 10% p.a. for years 1-7.

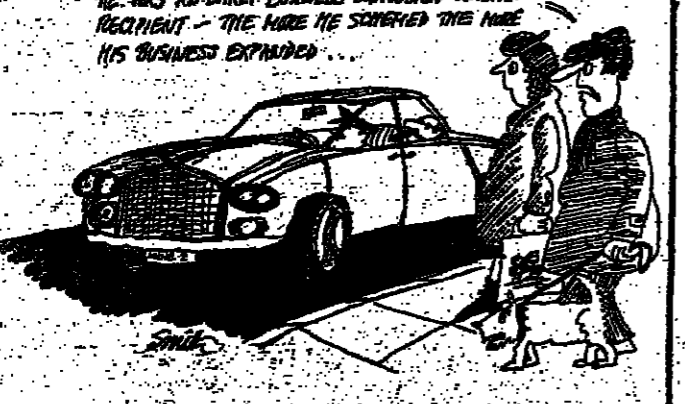
To find out more, complete and return the coupon without delay.

N.B. It should be remembered that unit values can fall as well as rise. While past performance cannot necessarily be taken as a guide to the future, the skills of the management group involved are clearly well above average.

Form for requesting more information, including fields for Name, Address, County, Tel. No., Present Income, Date of Birth, Tax Rate, Lamp sum amount available for investment, and Amount available for regular savings.

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Are you self-employed? A partner in a Partnership? Work for a company with no pension scheme? Freelance as well as have a full-time job?.. Read on.

YES! Mr. Williams is a senior employee in a company without a pension scheme. He takes out a Gresham Wealth Winner Plan at the age of 40. He decides to contribute £75 a month. As his tax rate is 45%, he'll get 45% tax relief on the payments, reducing them to only £24.25 per month.

YES! Mrs. Simmons is a solicitor. She takes out a Gresham Wealth Winner Plan at the age of 35. She currently pays tax at 40%, but her earnings can fluctuate each year, so she puts £40 a month into the plan, topping it up annually in good years. Her £40 a month only costs her £24 after tax relief.

YES! Mr. Saunders is 45 and is the Financial Director of a large company. He has also had a part-time occupation advising people on tax matters. His own tax rate is 50%. His earnings from this non-pensionable employment are £5,000 per year, and he's entitled to put up to 17 1/2% of this amount in a Gresham Wealth Winner Plan.

TODAY, there is a scheme so tax efficient that it should be the prime investment vehicle for anyone who qualifies for it. Such a scheme is the Gresham Wealth Winner Plan. It allows you to make contributions which qualify for tax relief at the highest rate of tax you pay. Contribute, say, £30 a month, and if you pay tax at 30%, it will only cost you £21. Put in £100 a month, and if you pay tax at 40%, it will cost you only £60 after tax relief.

Then, when your Plan matures, you have a personal fund worth many thousands of pounds. You can normally take about a third of this fund as a cash lump sum. Yet you will not pay a penny tax on it. The Gresham Wealth Winner Plan is, as you might have guessed, a personal pension plan. But pension seems the wrong way to describe a plan which allows you to amass wealth and minimise your tax bill all at the same time.

Mr. Ward, owner of a furniture shop chain, didn't bother to take out a Gresham Wealth Winner Plan, although he could have done. He's taxed at 40%, which he'll never see again. He saves money in a Building Society, which is taxed at source; and through a recently effected life assurance policy which doesn't qualify for tax relief. His dividends from the company are taxed, of course. He'll retire at 60, and he'll sell the business, hoping to get a decent price for it. He'll probably pay Capital Gains Tax on the sale. But he's still got a state pension to look forward to when he's 65. Currently it's £57.30 a week for a married couple!

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FAMILY MONEY

INVESTMENT

The case against insurance bonds



one that accounts primarily for differences in investment performance.

This could all change if the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, alters the capital gains tax regime in his Budget on March 15, but simply, the present position is that unit trusts are totally exempt from capital gains tax.

Insurance funds are not: they are liable to the 30 per cent tax.

If you own an investment bond ask 'why?'

on realized gains. Hence, on encashment of an investment bond, you will pay on the full 30 per cent tax bill to investors in respect of realized gains and a portion - usually in the range of 15-20 per cent in respect of unrealized gains.

Mr Wood says that GRE's passed-on charge to investors in respect of unrealized gains is a competitive 10 per cent, a fact he attributes to a careful selection of high-grade equities and consequent low turnover.

Careful selection of equities appears to be behind the success of Capital Life's insurance funds.

Mr David Morris, general manager of this subsidiary of Colonial Mutual Insurance, is honest enough to admit, however, that Capital's new small funds do have advantages over their older and bigger rivals. Principally, the managers of smaller funds tend to be more nimble-footed in their decision-making.

If Capital's funds follow the industry trend, the disparity between their performance and that of the best-performing unit trusts will widen as time goes by.

So if you are the proud owner of an investment bond, ask yourself "Why?" It may be that you have sound tax-planning reasons, but on pure investment grounds you are almost certainly better off with a unit trust.

The argument for holding investment bonds as opposed to unit trusts has never been conclusive. Recent tax changes and reductions in income tax make the case even less compelling.

PETER GARTLAND reviews the performance of bonds versus unit trusts and asks, is there really any justification for continuing to hold bonds?

At this time of year there is always a great deal of ballyhoo surrounding the performance of unit trusts over the preceding 12 months. Surprisingly little attention is paid, however, to the results of an alternative form of lump sum investment available only from insurance companies - investment bonds, otherwise known as insurance or single-premium bonds.

There are many immediate similarities between a unit trust and an investment bond: both offer investment in a wide range of funds which may have a general aim, such as capital growth from a spread of international equities; or they may be rather more specific, such as Schroder's Gold Fund or Equity & Law's Far East Fund, both of which are constituted as unit trusts as well as investment bonds.

Many unit trusts are similar also to the insurance funds comprising investment bond money, in that they offer the facility for regular savings as well as lump-sum investment.

But the differences between the two investment media are more marked than the similarities. There are substantial differences in the tax treatment of both investor and unit trust/insurance company, as well as in switching charges. Of most importance to investors, there are big differences in the performance of unit trusts and investment bonds, even where the investment aim is the same.

Mr Peter Edwards, of Premier Unit Trust Brokers, illustrates the point by using figures showing the difference in performance over a year for a selection of investment possibilities in Japan, according to whether the investment bond or the unit trust route was chosen.

Using the Japan funds of Abbey, Britannia, Crescent (Edinburgh Fund Managers), Gartmore, M & G and Target, Mr Edwards found that in every case the unit trust performance outstripped easily that of the equivalent investment bond. In Target's case, the unit trust route produced a performance 50 per cent better. Investment bonds do not hold a candle to unit trusts, says Mr Edwards, who as a unit trust specialist, is

Unit trusts are simple and tax efficient

unlikely to be an advocate of investment bonds.

Even at M & G Securities, the investment giant whose activities include the marketing of both unit trust and investment bonds, however, Mr Roger Jennings, a director, is adamant that for most people unit trusts are the better route irrespective of whether the investor's aim is growth or income.

Mr Jennings maintains that all of M & G's activities to popularize collective investment concentrate on unit trusts, because of their simplicity and tax efficiency.

Do investment bonds have a place at all? According to Mr Jennings the answer is "yes" - but only in the context of tax planning.

The point is that the legal rules relating to investment bonds make it possible for the bondholder to withdraw tax free up to 5 per cent annually of his original investment. In the late 1970s, when some people were paying up to 98 per cent tax for

every £1 earned, bonds played an important part. Even now, with a 60 per cent top rate, investment bonds clearly have their use as a part of a tax-planning strategy.

This becomes particularly relevant when it is remembered that not only is the 5 per cent annual withdrawal facility cumulative, but also that special "top slicing" rules apply to the tax treatment of the gain on the bond. Under these rules, the amount of the gain is divided by the number of years the bond has been held. The result is then added to the investor's income in the year of encashment, and a rate established after deducting basic-rate tax.

Investment bonds can also play a part as investments for schemes aimed at mitigating CTT liability, and they do, of course, provide a small amount of life assurance cover.

Mr Richard Wood, of Guardian Royal Exchange, which is also involved in marketing both unit trusts and investment bonds, points out that the

choice is not straightforward. "It's difficult to generalize," he says, because "you have to take into account the client's investment philosophy."

In defence of investment bonds, Mr Wood argues that one type available from many insurance companies - the

Switching unit trusts can cost much more

property bond - has no equivalent among unit trusts.

So if you want exposure to a fund investing directly in the bricks and mortar of offices, shops and warehouses rather than just property shares, the property bond route is the best option. Remember, though, that some property bond funds, especially the smaller ones, will restrict themselves to shares in property companies, just like unit trusts. If this is important

to you, check the managers' strategy before you invest.

Mr Wood also points out that switching among different types of investment bond with the same insurance company is much cheaper than switching from one unit trust to another. Typically, a bond switch might cost the investor 0.5 per cent of the amount switched, whereas a unit trust switch could cost six times as much even with a group that offers investors a discount on switching to dissuade them from looking elsewhere.

An investment bond switch, moreover, does not give rise to a chargeable event for capital gains tax purposes, whereas a unit trust switch does.

In practice this may not be a crucial point for many investors, but difference in capital gains tax treatment between unit trust funds and insurance funds is certainly an important factor, indeed it is the most significant tax difference between the two media and the

Results of a £1,000 lump sum investment over one year to January 1, 1985

Top unit trusts	(£)	Top investment bonds	(£)
Manulife High Income	1,542	Capital Life Managed	1,528
Fidelity Japan	1,503	Capital Life Equity	1,495
Gartmore Hong Kong	1,476	Gresham/Framlington Capital	1,382
Oppenheimer Income & Growth	1,463	Pearl Equity	1,369
M&G Midland	1,444	Provincial High Income	1,344

Offer to offer including reinvested income. Source: Money Management

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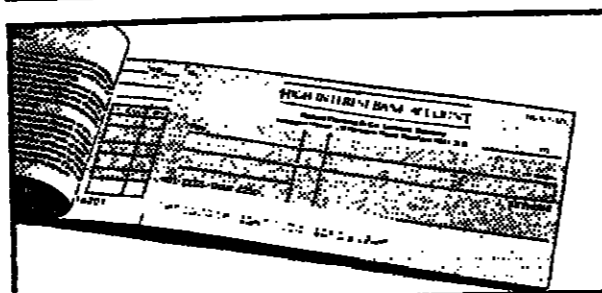
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HIGH INTEREST BANK ACCOUNT

To: Peter Feasey, HIBA Administration Centre, FREEPOST, Romford RM1 1BR. Telephone: 0708-66966

I wish to open a High Interest Bank Account with Robert Fleming & Co. Limited. I enclose a cheque for the sum of £1,000 (minimum £1,000) made payable to Robert Fleming & Co. Limited and agree to be bound by the Terms and Conditions of the Account. I am aware that the cheque book will be sent to you with the Terms and Conditions and a statement confirming the opening of your account and showing the initial deposit. You should normally receive these within 14 days of our receipt of your application. (If please send me further information.)

Full name(s) Mr/Mrs/Ms _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone No. _____

Save & Prosper Acc. No. (if any) _____

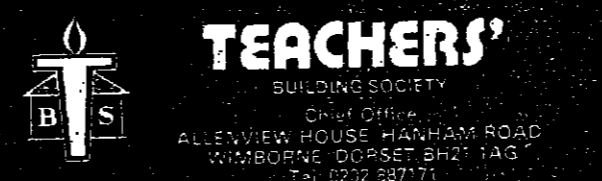
Signature(s) _____ Date _____



REVISED INTEREST RATES From 1st February 1985

Type of Account	Net P.A. %	Gross* %
ORDINARY INVESTMENT	8.00	11.43
BULLION SHARES	9.40	13.43
MONTHLY CONTRACT	9.00	12.86
FIXED TERM SHARES		
3 Years	9.00	12.86
5 Years (Closed)	9.50	13.57
DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS	6.75	9.64

* to basic rate tax payers



Please send investment details to: Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____ Address _____

Shares and deposits in the Society are Trustee Investments Members of the Building Societies' Association and Investors' Protection Scheme.

CONTAINERWORLD SERVICES LTD HIGH INCOME PLAN

17% PER ANNUM*

PAID ANNUALLY (Monthly/six monthly terms available)

Minimum Investment £2,250

Containerworld Services Ltd based in Southampton mortgage and operate a first class world wide container leasing service to the shipping industry and specialise in providing investors with a High Fixed Income with security. For full details of the High Income Plan (NOW INCORPORATING NEW CAPITAL REPARTITION OPPORTUNITY) complete and return the coupon today. *on investments of £4,250 from 5 to 15 years.

CONTAINERWORLD SERVICES LIMITED 25 Queen's Terrace, Southampton SO1 1BG Tel: 0703 335322 or our London Office - 01 499 5501, 24 hr service

Please send me by return details of your High Fixed Income Plan.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Tel No. (work) _____ (home) _____

CONTAINERWORLD SERVICES LIMITED FREEPOST SOUTHAMPTON SO9 1BD

NEW HIGHER RATES FROM 1ST FEBRUARY!

9.45% NET

AND ONLY 7 DAYS NOTICE

INVEST MORE	EARN MORE
9.45%	
9.20%	
8.95%	

The Triple Bonus Account provides top rewards for investors. No other major building society offers such an ideal combination of really high interest and easy access. The more you invest, the better your deal becomes.

With £1,000 to £4,999 you get a generous 8.95% p.a. (12.79% gross). £5,000 to £19,999 returns an even better 9.20% p.a. (13.14% gross).

And £20,000 or more earns 9.45% p.a. (13.50% gross). Beat that if you can!

Your money is available with no interest loss at only seven days' notice. Or you can withdraw

instantly if you leave £10,000 or more invested.

If you'd like a monthly income at the same high rate, ask about the Triple Bonus Income Account. With 160 branches around the country, there's a Bristol & West branch near you with all the details. Or write (no stamp required) to:

Bristol & West Building Society, (Dept TB) FREEPOST, PO Box 27, Broad Quay, Bristol BS99 7BR.

BRISTOL TRIPLE BONUS ACCOUNT



Authorized for investment by Trustees. Assets covered: £1,500 million. Member of the Building Societies Association. Net interest is paid annually and is tax paid at the basic rate. Gross rates are equivalent to the basic rate for 1985. Interest rates and terms may vary.

Head Office: Broad Quay, Bristol BS99 7BR. Telephone: (0272) 294271.

OVER 160 BRANCHES FROM PENZANCE TO ABERDEEN

مكان من الأصل

FAMILY MONEY

FLOTATION

Bank says yes to rush deposits

Everyone wants to take part in a good offer. So it is not surprising that some investors are worried that opening accounts at the Trustee Savings Bank at the last minute has not qualified them for the special benefits promised to depositors when the bank is floated later this year. The cut-off date for opening qualifying accounts was December 17.

One of our readers, for example, told us that he had deposited his cheque on December 16. By mistake the TSB did not credit his account until December 18. When he objected, the bank altered this to the 17th but he was uncertain whether he would still be eligible for favourable treatment when the bank's shares are launched.

In fact, he need not be concerned. Mr Tony Slaughter, of TSB Group, said: "As long as a customer genuinely tried to open an account before December 17, he will qualify for beneficial treatment in the share sale. That is, as long as his application form and his cheque arrived on or before the 17th, all is well. The interest on his deposit will not begin to be paid until the cheque is cleared, which may be a day or two later. But his account is deemed to have been opened the moment he handed it over."

Mr Slaughter added: "Unfortunately, we had to set a cut off date so early because there was already a noticeable rise in accounts being opened. These were mostly by people who were only interested in staggling the share issue. Since then we have had letters from people who opened accounts one or two days late asking us to make an exception. Except in very exceptional circumstances, we really cannot backdate their accounts."

Apparently, the highest number of accounts probably opened for staggling purposes were in the London area. And a large number of these, not surprisingly, were in the TSB's (deposide) branch in the City.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Compensation rule is music to ears of small investors

Legislation in the field of consumer protection generally leaves much to be desired. The Consumer Credit Act is largely a complicated irrelevance and the 1974 Banking Act did not go anywhere near far enough in providing compensation for depositors. But at last this Government seems to have got something right.

The proposals for a new Investor Protection Act, published this week, if incorporated in the final legislation, will mean that investors in Britain will enjoy better protection and compensation from fraudulent or incompetent investment advisers than investors anywhere else in the world.

The fear was that Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, would step back from insisting that compensation, the most crucial element in any scheme for investor protection, was obligatory. But he has not.

However, there is still time for his proposals on compensation to be watered down or even abandoned by the time the legislation finally reaches the Statute Book in late 1986.

And there is a precedent. When new rules controlling Licensed Dealers in Securities were introduced in 1983, the original draft legislation contained a requirement for all

licensed dealers to carry professional fidelity and indemnity insurance.

In the final regulations this had been reduced to a pointless requirement for a licensed dealer to reveal what, if any, insurance arrangement he had made.

However, the White Paper on a New Framework for Investor Protection seems to be reassuring on this point. Regulatory bodies like the Stock Exchange, National Association of Securities Dealers and Investment Managers and the like will be required to incorporate a compensation scheme in their rules before being granted self-regulatory status.

All those investment advisers who choose not to join an SRA or who are not eligible to join an SRA, will have to be licensed with one of the two new Supervisory Boards to be set up, which will themselves have to make arrangements for compensation.

Most important, the Boards themselves will have considerable flexibility to exclude the crook from giving investment advice by means of the requirement to be a "fit and proper" person to offer this sort of service.

The person who sets out to defraud the public may well meet all the criteria contained

in a set of rules. But the "fit and proper" person makes it possible for the truly dubious character to be excluded.

Virtually all forms of investment will be regulated by a new definition for securities which will include everything from shares, unit trusts, investment trusts, the whole range of financial and commodity futures and options.

Investments excluded include coins and medals and other property which passes under the direct physical control of the investor.

Another crucial proposal in the White Paper is the requirement for investment managers and advisers to carry clients' funds in a segregated account.

The segregation of clients' accounts itself reduces the possibility of fraud and loss through insolvency. Investment businesses have no right to finance themselves from the interest on clients' funds; it is the stern reprimand contained in the White Paper. Professor Cowser in his report on investor protection on which the White Paper is based was highly critical of the Stock Exchange for not insisting on segregation of clients' funds.

Overall, the proposals contained in the White Paper - if implemented in full - represent a major step forward in the field

of consumer protection. It will no longer be possible for anyone to set themselves up as an investment manager or adviser. All such individuals will require authorization.

But overwhelming all other considerations is the provision for compensation. What use is regulation if the customer still loses his money?

The White Paper says: "Compensation should be available for investors in the event of loss arising from investment businesses' fraud, negligence or failure to comply with requirements for the protection of clients' assets."

This could take a number of forms. One is a funded compensation scheme. It would be for the relevant board to establish or approve the appropriate method of compensation. The legislation would impose a duty on it to see that such arrangements are made and confer the necessary powers.

The aim should be for the private investor to receive full compensation. Those words fall like music on the ears of the millions of small investors who are concerned about the safety of their savings. It will not help those who have suffered loss - but it will ensure that the small investor does not, in future, lose out.

Lorna Bourke

CUSTOMERS' PERKS

TSB looks for its 'ghosts'

The TSB's six million customers are to be sent pink forms to give them priority in the allocation of shares when the TSB is floated as a public company either next November or spring 1986.

But the TSB also has hundreds of thousands of "ghost" customers who will also be entitled to preferential treatment if they come out of the woodwork. "Ghost" customers hold accounts which have not been used since the TSB computerised all its accounts in 1971.

These dormant accounts may only have a matter of pence in them but it is worth going along to the nearest branch to have the pass book made up and entered on the TSB computer. The branch may send a book back to the branch where it was issued for the branch that took over the business if that branch has since been closed.

The ordinary account paid 4 per cent until November 1984 and 3 per cent since then, so the interest will probably not amount to a great deal unless a sizeable chunk of money has been languishing in the account. But one glance at what has happened to the British Telecom issue shows how valuable a pink form could be.

Accounts had to be opened by December 17 and still operational on the day of the share launch, so it is too late to rush out and open an account to qualify for preferential share treatment.

Any sort of cheque, savings or deposit account will provide the passport to a pink form. But those with just the TSB's Trustcard, a TSB insurance policy or an account with UDT (United Dominions Trust) will be left out in the cold with the general public to take their chance in any ballot should the shares be oversubscribed - which is a distinct possibility.

The TSB's 25,000 staff are also being offered priority treatment, but they are not being offered free or cut-price shares.

The bill to float the TSB has had its second reading - last Monday - but it still has to go through its committee stages. The Labour Party is not enthusiastic about the flotation and sympathises with many of the old guard TSB employees who are sad to see the principle of mutuality being abandoned so that the bank's profits will go to shareholders rather than be ploughed back into the bank to benefit customers and staff.

Stockbrokers' analysis are enthusiastic about the TSB's prospects. Christopher Davis of L. Messel estimates that the shares will go to a 20 per cent premium, with an offer of £800 million and a post-issue market capitalization of about £1 billion.

But he warns investors against getting carried away with their enthusiasm.

Vivien Goldsmith

NEW from Nationwide FleetBond

A UNIQUE SAVINGS PLAN WITH IMMEDIATE LIFE COVER

The new FleetBond from Nationwide is a 10 year savings plan with special tax advantages. Produced in conjunction with Fleet Friendly Society and Midland Bank Group Unit Trust Managers Limited the special taxation advantages and immediate life cover of the FleetBond make it a most attractive investment.

How FleetBond Works

The Nationwide FleetBond is a unique savings plan. Half your savings go into a special Nationwide account and the balance is used to buy units in Midland Bank's Income Unit Trust. The Friendly Society link means that 50% of the tax normally paid on building society and unit trust interest is reclaimed, giving your savings a valuable boost. No other savings plan offers the same two-way investment as the FleetBond.

Life Insurance Cover

FleetBond automatically provides life insurance cover up to a total sum of £1500 for those aged 56 or under. There is a small reduction in death benefit for older ages. No medical examination is required.

The Likely Return

If FleetBonds had been available since

1974 then they would have produced a return of over 15% per annum.

How Much

The FleetBond is a ten year investment in which you save £200 per year. FleetBond gives you the choice of saving annually or from a lump sum of £2000 into a Nationwide account which, in turn is used to make the yearly FleetBond contributions.

The Next Step

You can obtain full details of FleetBond by completing the coupon or alternatively by telephoning 01 834 9090 any day, any time and we will send you a brochure.

Please note anyone can open a FleetBond provided they are between the ages of 18 and 69 but you may not hold a FleetBond if you already have a similar policy issued by a Friendly Society.

To: Nationwide Building Society, Freeport, London WC1V 6XA
Please send me details of the Nationwide FleetBond

Name: _____
Address: _____
Tel No: _____

In conjunction with Midland Bank Unit Trusts

FLEET FRIENDLY SOCIETY

FTT22

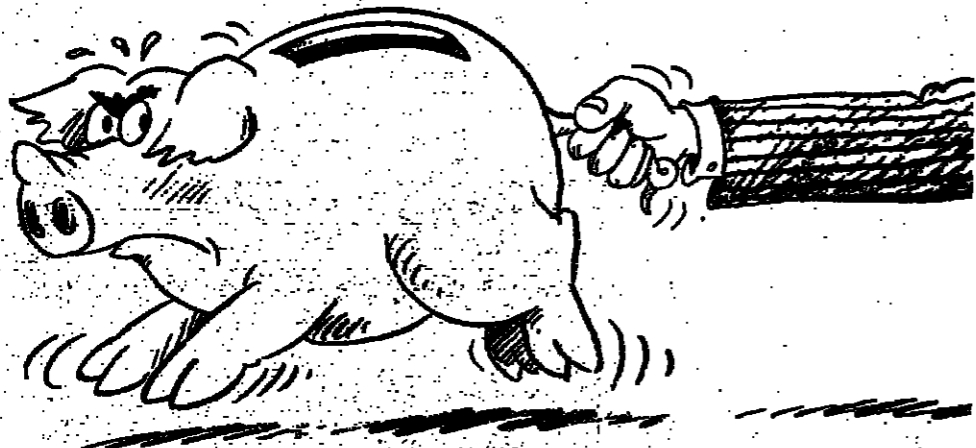
Phone 01-834 9090 for details ANY DAY - ANY TIME.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Adam & Company	14%
Barclay's	14%
BTCT	14%
City Bank	14%
City of London	14%
Consolidated	14%
Continental Trust	14%
C. Hoare & Co	14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams & Glyn's	14%
Citibank NA	14%

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS 10% p.a. net for 2, 3 or 4 years

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17/21 Leicester Street, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE13 0PP
Telephone: (0654) 61961



How to hand over an estate without handing over control

You don't have to be rich to be hit by Capital Transfer Tax. Even a relatively modest estate, including your home of £150,000 could incur a CTT liability of around £31,000 (or 20.66%) on death - on the other hand, it could cost you nothing. The precise amount you pay can depend on efficient and speedy tax planning.

The London Life Family Inheritance Trust offers the private investor a flexible CTT avoidance package:

- * Gradual transfer of assets to a trust fund exempt from CTT.
- * Annual tax-free income if you are a basic rate taxpayer.
- * Access to both the original investment and any subsequent capital growth.
- * Tailor-made schemes to fit individual requirements and financial circumstances.

Why London Life?
* Because our charges are among the lowest in the business - a typical life office, for example charges 200% more in start-up expenses for a £30,000 investment.

The Jeremy Ward, Manufacturing Department
The London Life Assurance Limited, FREEPOST,
100 Temple Street, Birmmham B51 5YJ.
I would like to know more about The London Life Family Inheritance Trust.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Tel. No. Business: _____
Home: _____
(If you prefer, you can call Jeremy Ward on 0272 279179 to discuss your requirements personally.)

London Life

PERSONAL PENSIONS.

How to get a top performing plan with no hidden traps.

Some pension plans penalise you if you retire earlier than you originally intended.

Or if you don't want to commit yourself to paying identical premiums every year.

With The Equitable you'll encounter no such traps.

Retire early and we'll pay you just the same as if you had chosen that age to start with.

Not that you have to pay any more for this flexibility. And as for our results, you need look no further than the magazine 'Planned Savings' August 1984 survey of with profits individual pension plans.

"One of the most consistent of performers in the 10 year tables" was what they had to say about us.

And in their five year table we came top.

If you're a partner, self-employed, or work for a company that doesn't offer you a plan, our record is just as impressive. In 'Planned Savings' analysis* of comparable funds over the last six years, we've produced the highest result from 10 and 20 year regular premium with profit policies more often than any other company. Of course, the past cannot guarantee the future. But why is The Equitable so consistently successful?

Well one of the many reasons is that we pay no commission to middlemen. If you want a pension plan that cuts out the middleman as well as the hidden traps cut out the coupon or phone 01-606 6611.

LEFT TO ARRANGE YOUR OWN PENSION?

If you are a partner, self-employed, or work for a company which does not have a pension scheme for you, these examples of the kind of returns you could expect should prove interesting. Bear in mind that you aren't committed to paying premiums every year, unlike some other plans.

MAN AGED	YOUR TAX BRACKET	ANNUAL NET COST TO YOU	GROSS PENSION FROM £5
25	%	£	£ p.a.
25	30	350	919.2
25	40	300	919.2
35	30	910	5637.5
35	40	780	5637.5
45	40	1800	4095
45	60	1200	4095
55	40	3600	2178.3
55	60	2400	2178.3

IN YOUR COMPANY'S PENSION SCHEME?

If your company pension will be less than two thirds of your final salary, and if your contributions are less than 15% of your current salary, then you are normally entitled - by the Inland Revenue - to have a top-up pension.

MAN AGED	YOUR TAX BRACKET	ANNUAL NET COST TO YOU	EXTRA GROSS PENSION FROM £5
25	%	£	£ p.a.
25	30	700	1770.6
25	40	600	1770.6
35	30	1050	812.5
35	40	400	812.5
45	40	1800	469.2
45	60	1200	469.2
55	40	3000	187.7
55	60	2000	187.7

* Figures suppose current immediate annuity rates apply at the time, and that current bonus rates including terminal bonus are maintained throughout. Future bonuses depend on future profits and cannot be guaranteed.

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, 4 Coleman Street, London EC2B 2JT.

For further details of our top-up pension schemes, please tick this box.

For further details of our self-employed pension schemes, please tick this box.

I would also welcome details of that plan unlinked to up to 10 different funds.

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____ Address _____
Tel (home) _____ Tel (office) _____
Date of Birth _____

The Equitable Life Postcode _____
The oldest mutual life office in the world. BPASA

Clydesdale Bank PLC

HOUSE MORTGAGE RATE

Clydesdale Bank PLC announces that with effect from Monday 4th February 1985 its House Mortgage Rate is being increased to 13½% per annum

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks
Current account - no interest paid.
Deposit accounts - seven days notice required for withdrawals. Barclays 11½ per cent. Lloyds 11½ per cent. NatWest 8.25 per cent. Midland 11.0 per cent. National Girobank 11 per cent. Fixed term deposits £10,000-£24,999, 1 month 12.25 per cent, 3 months 11.25 per cent, 6 months 10.5 per cent. Rates quoted by National Westminster. Other banks may differ.

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts - interest 6 per cent on £500 minimum on deposit for whole of 1985, otherwise 3 per cent.

Investment Account - 12.25
(from 8th Feb) per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, months notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £50,000.

National Savings Income Bond
Min. investment £2,000 - max. £50,000. Interest - 12.75 (from 13th March) per cent variable at six weeks notice - paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 months notice. Penalties in first year.

National Savings 2nd index-linked certificates
Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues.

Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index
Supplement of 0.25 per cent per month up to October 1985 paid to new investors; existing holders receive a 3.0 per cent supplement between October 1984 and October 1985 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Further 4 per cent after 10 years. Retirement issue. Certificates purchased in February 1980, £160.67 including bonus and supplement.

National Savings Certificates
28th issue. Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 8 per cent, maximum investment £5,000. 30th issue (from Feb 13) 8.85 per cent.

Local authority town hall bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). 1 yr Neath 10 per cent 2 yrs Bolton 11 per cent 3 yrs Bolton 11 per cent 4, 5, 6 or 7 yrs Lambeth 11.5 per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy, Loans Bureau (638 6361 between 10am and 2.30pm) see also on Prestel no. 24808.

Investors in Industry
Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 5 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 10.25 per cent, 10.5 per cent between six and ten years, information from 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-928 7822).

Building societies
Ordinary share accounts - 7.5 per cent. Extra interest accounts usually pay 1 per cent over the ordinary share rate. Regular savings schemes - 1.25 per cent over BSA advised ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Foreign currency deposits
Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Int. Reserves 0481 26741. Seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

Guaranteed Income Bonds
Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity.
1 yr Gen Portfolio 10% Capital Life
8.5% 2 yrs Gen Portfolio 10% Capital Life 8% 3 yrs Gen Portfolio 10% New Direction 9.1 4 yrs General Portfolio 10% Abbey Life

December RPI: 358.5
(The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month).

HIGHER INTEREST RATES

7 DAY SHARE Minimum Investment £500	9-05% = 9-25%* 12.93% - 13.21%*
30 DAY SHARE Minimum Investment £500	9-35% = 9-57%* 13.36% - 13.67%*
90 DAY SHARE Minimum Investment £500	9-60% = 9-83%* 13.71% - 14.04%*
3 YEAR SHARE Minimum Investment £500	9-80% = 10-04%* 14.00% - 14.34%*

Portsmouth Building Society
Member of the Building Societies Association and its Investors Protection Scheme
FOR FURTHER DETAILS PHONE PORTSMOUTH RAYLEIGH (0706) 671341

REUNDANCY COVER

Mortgage payment plan

If you think that redundancy is a real possibility, it might be worthwhile taking a look at the redundancy, unemployment and disability mortgage protection scheme offered by Hamilton LoanGuard.

The scheme, says Mr Mike Durrant of Edgar Hamilton and Carter, which is marketing the policy, aims to protect mortgage repayments in the event of unemployment, redundancy or physical disability. It costs £5 a month for each £100 of monthly mortgage payment which you want to cover.

Benefits are payable for 12 months and you have to work at least six months back in work before you become eligible for further benefits. Anyone can take out a policy, but redundancy cover does not start until 90 days after the policy is signed. Benefit paid monthly begins on the 61st day of unemployment or disability, so you have to be out of work for at least two months before benefit is paid.

In most cases, of course, social security would pay mortgage interest payments (though not capital repayments). Furthermore, the insurance cover offered is not cheap. But if you are interested, full details are available from Edgar Hamilton and Carter. (Tel: 01-739 4300.)

Gartmore's Investment Action Report on Hong Kong

For a Free Review of the Hong Kong Stockmarket and its future prospects, from the Managers of the best performing Hong Kong Trust last year, write to:

GARTMORE

Gartmore Fund Managers Ltd., 2 St Marys Ave, London EC3A 8BP
Tel: Freephone 2621 (24 hours) or during office hours 01-623 1212
Please send me the Hong Kong Stock Market Review

Name _____
Address _____

Bank of Scotland Home Loan Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that with effect from 1st February 1985 Bank of Scotland Home Loan Rate will be increased from 12.00% per annum to 13.50% per annum.

Bank of Scotland, Head Office, The Mound, Edinburgh, EH1 1YZ.

BANK OF SCOTLAND
A FRIEND FOR LIFE

Pick up the phone and arrange a loan

Getting a home loan may never be easier

If you've always wanted to own your own home you may now have a better opportunity than right now.

At Peterborough Building Society we've got money to lend to both existing and new customers.

We've also got money for extensions and re-financing.

You can even arrange a loan by phone.

We call our new hot line for loans, Phone-a-Loan. The number is 07330 51491 (Monday - Friday or 0733)

07330 Saturday & Sunday and 9 am - 4 pm Monday and 9 am - 4 pm Saturday and 9 am - 5 pm Sunday. Ask for the Phone-a-Loan service. We'll tell you on the spot how much you can borrow and how easy it is to arrange. Contact us now. Getting a home loan may never be easier. And your chance of qualifying may never be better.

Peterborough Building Society
Head Office: Water Street, Peterborough PE1 2BB, Tel: (0733) 61481

Big new rate from 1st February!

7 DAY ACCOUNT

If you're not at Abbey Seven Day level, you could be losing money

Just £100 gets you started!

No-one can afford to throw money away these days. Only Abbey National offers you the chance to get up to a higher level of interest for as little as £100. Small wonder that over 1 million Abbey National Seven Day Accounts have been opened.

No notice over £2,500

You can deposit between £100 and £30,000 (£60,000 for joint accounts). You give seven days' notice to withdraw (it's surprising how few demands can't wait seven days). And, if you leave £2,500 in, we don't even need that notice. Interest (8.75% net p.a. from 1st February) is credited half-yearly, and if left to compound in the account, the effective annual rate is even better, working out at 8.94%.

Use the coupon. Or come to your local branch. It's time for you to come on in to Seven Day level!

ABBEY NATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETY, ABBEY HOUSE, BAKER STREET, LONDON NW1 6XL

8.75% = 8.94% = 12.77%

To Dept 7 DM, Abbey National Building Society, FREEPOST, United Kingdom House, 180 Oxford Street, London W1E 5JZ.

If I enclose a cheque numbered _____ to be invested in a Seven Day Account at my local branch in _____

Please send me full details and an application card. Minimum investment £100. Maximum £30,000 per person (£60,000 joint account).

I understand that withdrawals can be made at any time, subject to my notice having given 7 days' written notice (no notice or charge provided a balance of £2,500 remains after withdrawal).

I understand that the above rate applies from 1st February and may vary.

Full name(s) Mr/Mrs/Miss _____ Tel _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

ABBEY NATIONAL SEVEN DAY ACCOUNT

RUGBY UNION: FIVE NATIONS CHAMPIONSHIP GETS UNDER WAY AT LAST

Underdogs must get into a dogfight with the French

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The names of the French side which meets England at Twickenham today in the five nations championship...

England will do well to get points on the board early, so the importance of Andrew's kicking cannot be overstated...

But put these somewhat ephemeral qualities against the know international qualities of the French and you still come up with an away win...

Today's teams at Twickenham

Table listing players for England and France, including positions like Full back, Right wing, and Stand off.

REPLACEMENTS: 16 C R Woodward (Leicester), 17 G H Davies (Wales) 18 R J W...

Telfer sees testing time for Scotland

By Ian McLaughlin

Much has happened in the Scotland camp since the heavy day of success last March when the Glasgow side secured...

Maskell out Nottingham switch

Nottingham have moved their home Rugby Union game with Gloucester forward to February 15...



Serge Blanco training in Windsor yesterday (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Scotland's chances damaged by changes

By Gerald Davies

The satisfaction that the championship can at last get under way and that the more uncooperative weather has relaxed for a while...

Today's teams at Murrayfield

Table listing players for Scotland and Ireland, including positions like Full back, Right wing, and Stand off.

West Hartlepool at full strength

West Hartlepool, with 20 wins from 27 games, will not be short of confidence when they meet Moseley today in a postponed third round...

Zurbriggen miraculously back to best after Lourdes visit

From David Miller, Bormio, Italy

None of the experts, it seems, can find anything especially wrong with the Bormio world championship downhill course...



Zurbriggen: the man to beat

Graham is fastest going downhill

Santa Caterina, Italy. (Reuter) - The Canadian, Laurie Graham looked better than the Europeans...

It didn't think I was that fast because I made wide tracks in places but I guess I have got a good pair of skis...

Rugby League: Rovers look clear at the top

By Keith Macklin

Unless the pursuers of Hull Kingston Rovers take a firm grip on themselves, the first division championship looks like developing into a one-horse race...

Swimming: Buswell in mood for challenge

From Athole Still, Paris

The Diana Invitation meeting which opened last night brought the Olympic mood to the pool...

Snooker: Meo falls foul of referee

By Sydney Friskin

Tony Meo was "called" three times, like a bowler in cricket, by the referee, John Street...

FOR THE RECORD

A collection of sports news snippets including basketball, tennis, football, and other sports results and briefs.



1785-1985

MARCH 5, 1938

Thanks to television the spectacle of a world Alpine skiing championship is now familiar to Britons...

THE SKIING CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE WORLD

Local inhabitants would be astonished if they realized how little was known of these events in England...

This year's entry of 43 men, representing 15 nations and constituting 10 full teams...

The preparations of some of these countries, especially those for whom skiing is as much a business as a sport...

The hope of the British team rests in J. Palmer-Tomkinson, their captain, whose racing record proves that he can, when in form...

Come to our boxing night and do a child a favour

Advertisement for a boxing event at The Lord's Taverners, including details about tickets and the cause.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND MEMORIALS... ANNOUNCEMENTS... THE TIMES... MARRIAGES... DEATHS...

IN MEMORIAM... STAFFORD, CATHERINE... ANNOUNCEMENTS... SPANISH FAMILY living in Toronto...

PERSONAL COLUMNS

WANTED... YACHTS AND BOATS... A HALL WITH 8 ROOMS... RIVA 36 ft... YACHTS AND BOATS...

SPORT AND RECREATION... FAMILY HOLIDAY... TRIBUT SALMON FISHING... NORTH OF THAMES... BANK OF ENGLAND 10 mile walk...

COUNTRY PROPERTY... MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS... THE PIANO WAREHOUSE... THE PIANO WORKSHOP... CHALLENGE... ANTIQUE FIREPLACES...

FLAT SHARING... GOLDEN GREEN... WESTWOOD... UNBELIEVABLE VHS video... BALDWIN... ROSEN KAVALEV... FINE ART... SECRETARIES... EDUCATIONAL... ALLIANCE FRANCAISE... FASHION AND BEAUTY... LEGAL NOTICES... BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES...

Entertainment

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER CONCERTS... AT THE BARBICAN... FRIDAY 8th FEBRUARY at 7.45... LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA... MENDELSSOHN: Op. 61... VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Concertos...

SUNDAY 24th FEBRUARY at 7.30... CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA... CONDUCTOR: DORON SALOMON... MENDELSSOHN: Op. 61... VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Concertos...

WEDNESDAY 27th FEBRUARY at 7.45... TCHAIKOVSKY... LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA... CONDUCTOR: VILHELM FRIEDL... SLEEPING BEAUTY, SWAN LAKE, SILENT PIANO CONCERTO No. 1...

SATURDAY 2nd MARCH at 7.45... LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA... CONDUCTOR: JORIS OGDON... MOZART: Op. 41... BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 3...

AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL... SUNDAY 24th FEBRUARY at 7.30... SPECTACULAR... VIENNESE EVENING... LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA... CONDUCTOR: EDWARD HEATH...

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SCREEN ON BAKER ST. Tel: 935... THE AWARDS WINNING WEST END & BROADWAY COMEDY HIT... THE ELECTRIC BLUE... THE ELECTRIC BLUE... THE ELECTRIC BLUE...

ART GALLERIES... AENEAS GALLERY... BRITISH LIBRARY/BARTON... VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM... TATE GALLERY...

CINEMAS... BARBICAN CINEMA... GARDNER PLAZA... GUY'S AND DOLLS... THE NATIONAL THEATRE... THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS... BURLESQUE SHOW... THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS... BURLESQUE SHOW...

THEATRES... RAZZLE DAZZLE... BURLESQUE SHOW... THE NATIONAL THEATRE... THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS... BURLESQUE SHOW... THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS... BURLESQUE SHOW...

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REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

YORKSHIRE As London except... HTV WALES As HTV West except... SCOTTISH As London except... TYNE TEES As London except... CENTRAL As London except... GRANADA As London except... ULSTER As London except... HTV WEST As London except... TSW As London except... TYNE TEES As London except...

FOR WHOEVER shall do the will of my father which is to be in the name of my father and son...

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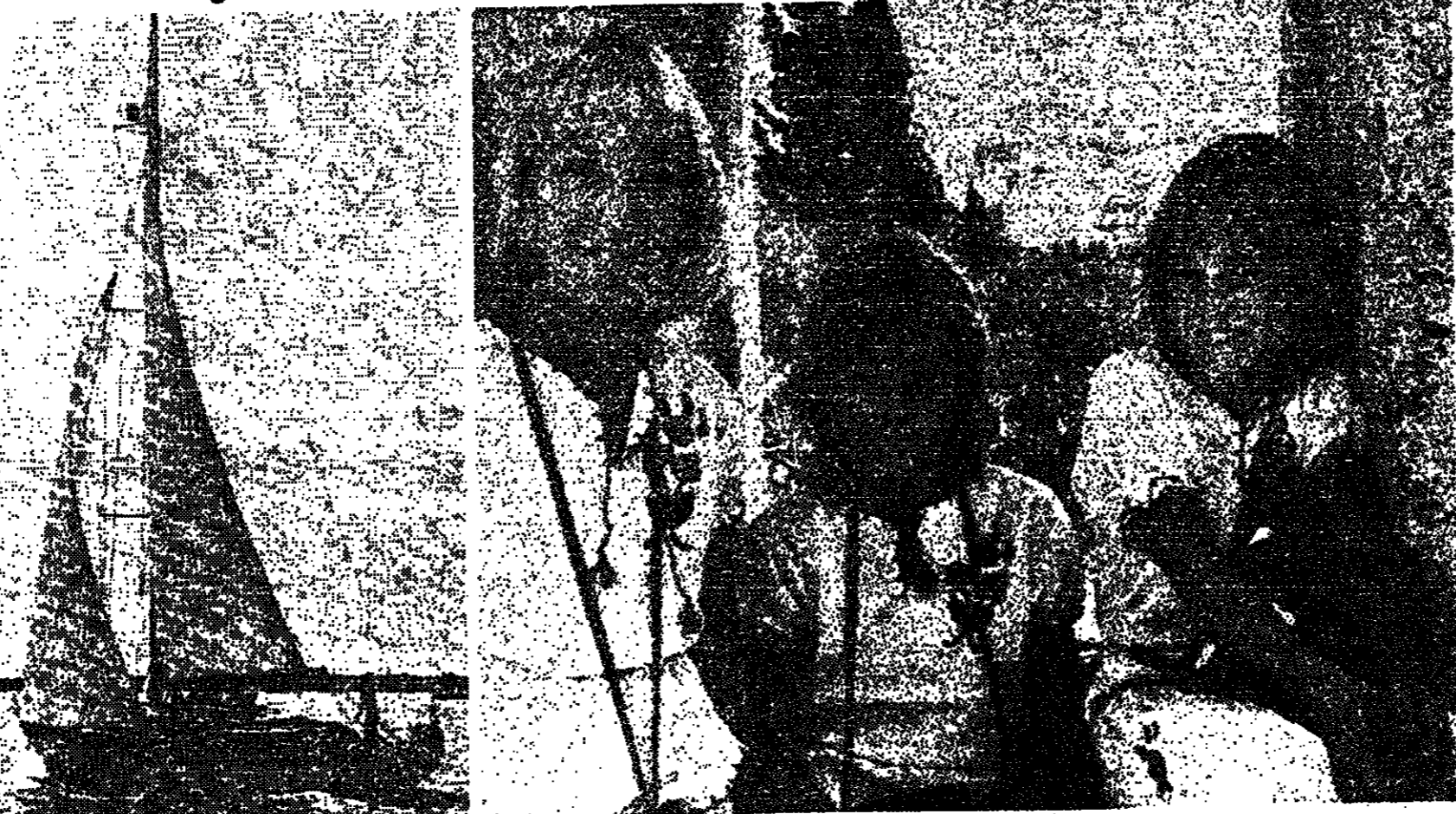
Russia asks Finland for remains of missile

Helsinki (AP) - The Soviet Union asked Finland to return the remains of a target missile recovered from a frozen lake where it crashed on December 28 after straying over Norwegian and Finnish territory...

'Vote with your feet', strikers urged by board

Under repeated questioning, Mr Eaton accepted that would involve a prior commitment on the part of the NUM to accept the principle of closing unprofitable mines before negotiations could restart...

Family saved from sea after 12 days adrift



The British family of five which was rescued from the Atlantic after drifting in a lifeboat for 12 days spoke last night of how their distress signals had not been picked up and how they had been without water for two days.

rubber lifeboat. "It was rather uncomfortable - very cramped," said Mrs. Tate. "We slept, kept watch out for ships, and the children made up cake recipes. There was no panic."

The Tate family had lived on the boat for about two and a half years, sailing mainly in the Mediterranean. Ten years ago their possessions were lost when their house in New Zealand burned down.

The Tate family's 40ft yacht Misty Blue (above left), and (above) the three daughters saved from its lifeboat, from left, Michelle, Chantel and Danielle. Below are Mrs Frances Tate and her husband, Peter



Falklands regained with ink and paper

The dock in court number two at the Central Criminal Court has been empty much of this week. The glass-panelled box, which in its time has restrained terrorists and gold bullion robbers, has often held nothing except a large book left by a prison officer.

'We were quite calm and confident'

distress beacon, which they took into the lifeboat. Its battery ran out after 26 hours. The VHF range is less than 50 miles and the Locat signal can be picked up only by passing aircraft.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution of Puzzle No 16,645. A crossword puzzle grid with filled-in letters.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,651. A crossword puzzle grid with some letters filled in.

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 14. A crossword puzzle grid with some letters filled in.

Today's events

New exhibitions: February 2 Harvey's History of Wine Collection; Dorman Museum, Louth Road, Middlesbrough; Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 3.

Roads

Midlands: M6: Contraflow and southbound side of Hilton Park services closed NW of Birmingham between junctions 10(A) (M54 junction) and 11 (A46 Cannonk).

Anniversaries

TODAY: Births: Nell Gwyn, London, 1650; Havelock Ellis, Croydon, Surrey, 1859; James Joyce, Dublin, 1882; Deaths: Palestrina, Rome, 1594; John L. Sullivan, heavyweight, bareknuckle boxer, Abington, Massachusetts, 1918; Bertrand Russell, 3rd Earl Russell, philosopher, Penryn, Cornwall, 1970.

Weather forecast

A weak trough of low pressure will move NE over much of England. Wales and Northern Ireland... High tides: TODAY: London Bridge 10.54 AM, HT 11.30 AM, MT 12.01 PM, FT 12.51 PM.

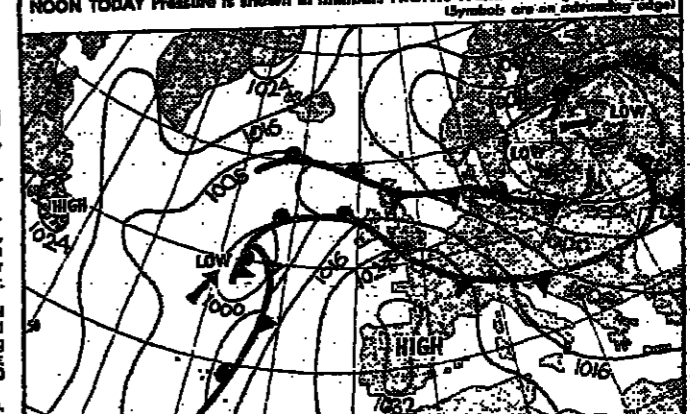


Table with weather data for various locations including London, Birmingham, Manchester, etc. Columns include location, time, and weather conditions.

Tomorrow

Royal engagement: The Princess of Wales attends a concert arranged by the Society of St John's Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem, 7.20.

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies: Australia 2.45, Belgium 36.45, Canada 1.25, Denmark 7.46, etc.

Portfolio

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 28).

Lighting-up time

Table showing sunrise and sunset times for various locations: London 5.22 pm to 7.06 am, Bristol 5.32 pm to 7.14 am, etc.

Around Britain

Table with weather data for various locations around Britain: East Coast, South Coast, etc. Columns include location, time, and weather conditions.

Abroad

Table with weather data for various international locations: London, Madrid, Rome, etc. Columns include location, time, and weather conditions.

MOON'S PHASES: C, cloud; d, drizzle; l, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sh, snow.